



The Victoria Unitarian

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

SERVICES IN SEPTEMBER

September 2

“#METOO! Sixth Sense Self Defence”

Yvette André WA Madelaine Clarke

No choir

Learning to listen to our inner guidance helps keep us safe and aware while contributing to healthy relationships. Sixth Sense Self Defense was created by Yvette Andre – Sandan in Shotokan Karate and Nidan in Daiwa-Ryu Aiki Jujitsu – who is passionate about helping people gain self-confidence and personal boundaries through simple self-defence skills and awareness. Join Yvette in this experiential introduction to efficient self-defense using situational awareness in multiple contexts.

September 9

“A Vision of Beloved Community”

(Homecoming Sunday)

Revs. Shana and Melora Lynngood WA Dan Klimke

As we return for a new church program year with a focus on vision, we will get back to basics. In the swirl of activity and ideas we sometimes forget to focus on why we are here. What is our congregation here for? How are we an extension of the vision our UU ancestors had for why spiritual community matters and what it is meant to do and be for people? What does it mean to be a people of vision in Cascadia in 2018?

September 16

“Envision Reconciliation”

Rev. Shana Lynngood W A Samantha Magnus

No choir

One of the visions that we hold dear is a vision of the human community not separated by any of the “isms” that continue to plague us. In this part of the world, a big piece of that work is trying to figure out what that means about right relationship with the Indigenous People. What does reconciliation mean in a practical sense? Where do we start in this huge and difficult undertaking? How might we begin as we look forward to welcoming an Indigenous Artist in Residence among us in November?

September 16, 7pm

Jazz Vespers

Rev. Shana Lynngood and the Susannah Adams Quartet

(see page 8)

September 23

“Seeing Through One Another’s Eyes”

Arran Liddel, Director of Spiritual Exploration and Learning for Children and Youth and Rev. Melora Lynngood

WA Larry Boldt

Worship Associate: Larry Boldt

No choir

Part of our vision as Unitarian Universalists is to tend to one another and our shared interdependent web of existence with compassion and care. Listening to one another – learning one another’s stories and struggles – helps unleash the natural empathy that can flow between us, laying the groundwork for deeper, more meaningful relationship, empowering us all to work together to care for the larger earth we share. In this interactive intergenerational service, we begin to inquire of one another, ‘What do you care about?’ ‘What are your concerns – on a big picture level, as well as on a smaller, day-to-day scale?’

Services continues next page

Services continued

September 30

“TBA”

Rev. Jane Bramadat

W A Shelley Motz

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DEADLINE FOR THE OCTOBER ISSUE IS SEPTEMBER 18!

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

Talk to us. Do you have a concern about our church that you would like the ministers to know? One purpose of the Committee on Ministry (CoM) is centered on developing a strong, healthy relationship between the Minister(s) and the Congregation. Members of the CoM are:

Suellen Guenther, chair, John Hopewell, Margot Lods, Mark Danley, Kent Haden.

THEMES FOR 2018-2019

Reverend Melora Lynngood

For the past several years, our congregation has been a part of the Soul Matters Network, a network of Unitarian Universalist congregations doing 'theme-based ministry.' Each month we delve into a new theme (like 'healing,' or 'courage,') through worship and programing for both adults and children.

In past years, we have framed our themes as "practices to transform ourselves and our world". We tended to think of the themes as individual practices. This year, we are shifting to a more communal way of framing it: "What does it mean to be a people of...?" We begin, for example, with "What does it mean to be a people of Vision?" Next month will be "What does it mean to be a people of Sanctuary?" Through these questions, we will consider who we are as a whole – who we are as Unitarian Universalists. Why does it make a difference in our lives and in the world that we are doing this work together as a Unitarian Universalist community?

In the past, we have used 'archived themes' – we did a bit of picking and choosing from the Soul Matters vault of past themes. This year, we are going 'live'. We are joining other congregations in the States and Canada, who are all using the same themes at the same time. This allows worship leaders and religious educators – and you-- to network with each other around the common themes.

Here is a link to the Soul Matters Facebook page that's open to all <https://www.facebook.com/soulmatterssharingcircle>. It's a little light in the summer; check in after Labour day for more activity. There are even Themed Soul Matters Spotify Playlists: a new music playlist every month on the themes, along with special playlists that go along with holidays, such as Women's History Month and Earth Day. As new playlists are created, they are shared on the Soul Matters Facebook page. You can also access all the playlists anytime here:

<https://www.soulmatterssharingcircle.com/spotify-lists.html>. Scroll down past the summer bit to September's theme of Vision. You can also listen to playlists on past themes like "Hope," "Perseverance," and "Balance."

Here are the themes we will explore this year:

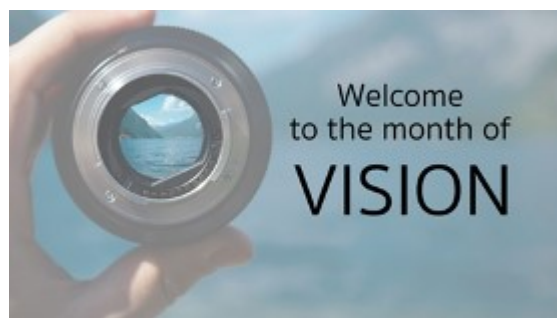
What Does It Mean to be a People of...

September: Vision
October: Sanctuary
November: Memory
December: Mystery
January: Possibility
February: Trust
March: Journey
April: Wholeness
May: Curiosity
June: Beauty

As usual, we will delve into our themes in our **Sunday worship services**. Stay tuned for plans for adult and children's programming.

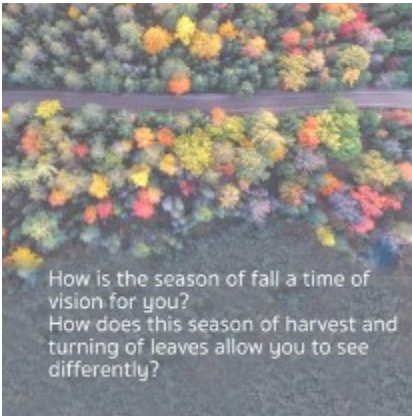
For this month, the month in which we explore "Vision," here are some questions to spark your thinking. Discuss the questions at coffee hour with a fellow congregant, at the dinner table with a friend or with family, and/or journal about them on your own.

1. What vision has been with you since you were a child? How has it both changed and remained the same ?



Continued next page

2. Who are your vision mentors? What poet, preacher, spiritual teacher, artist, activist or musician helps you hold on to your vision of the possible and the good? What practice do you use to keep their guidance and inspiration in front of you?
3. What vision do you want to pass on to your kids, grandkids or those who look to you for guidance?
4. How might it be a gift to lean into your near-sightedness? How might vision be calling you to take a break from the long view and gratefully gaze at the treasure right in front of you?
5. What might it mean to use a new form of perception to connect with the sacred? Many of us lean on our visual sight and analytical thinking to perceive and engage the holy. But how might listening or touch open an entirely new door? What about allowing your intuition to help you “see”? Or letting the muse of creative expression open up a new horizon? Many also suggest that vision is clearest when we look out with what vision has been with you since you were a child? How has it both changed and remained the same a “beginner’s mind.” What new form of “vision” is calling to you?
6. You see the beauty around you, but are you taking it in?
7. Wayne Dyer writes, “If you change the way you look at things, the things you look at change.” What in your life needs another look? What if you started with the things you are most sure about?



8. Is your vision of how your life is “supposed to be” in your way? Could clear vision require letting go of the visions to which you currently cling?

9. Have you ever had a “vision”, a spiritual revelation, mystical experience or premonition? Have you shared it easily? Or kept it to yourself?

10. “Once there were three bricklayers. Each one of them was asked what they were doing. The first man answered gruffly, “I’m laying bricks’. The second man replied, ‘I’m putting up a wall’. But the third man said enthusiastically and with pride, ‘I’m building a cathedral.’” *Are you sure you are just laying bricks? What brick or wall is asking you to see a “cathedral “in it/*

11. What if you made room for one long, uninterrupted stare at a beautiful thing?
12. Loren Eiseley reminds us, “It is a commonplace of all religious thought, even the most primitive, that the [person] seeking visions and insight must go apart from [their] fellows and live for a time in the wilderness.” *What might “stepping apart and going into the wilderness” look like in your life?*
13. Rose Nguyen writes, “I sometimes get so caught up with my big dreams... that I forget to recognize all the little dreams I’ve made come true!... We can get so caught up looking at where we should be, where we aren’t, and where others are in comparison that we forget to appreciate where we’ve been and where we’ve come from.” *How might looking back on how far you’ve come be a blessing to you this month?*
14. Is the speed and pace of your daily routine blurring your vision? Could the secret to finding clear sight be slowing down?

Co-Minister Portfolio Split

First Unitarian Church of Victoria, 2018-2019

Rev. Melora and Rev. Shana both do:	
Preaching and Worship	
Teaching	
Pastoral Care and Counselling	
Rites of Passage	
<i>We both meet with:</i> Committee on Ministry, Staff, Board (includes Strategic Plan)	
Rev. Melora is primarily responsible for ministry in these areas:	Rev. Shana is primarily responsible for ministry in these areas:
Worship & Worship Associates Program	Music and Choirs
Congregational Life: recognition & awards	Congregational Life: membership, care and concern, depression group, neighbourhood groups, fun and fellowship, coffee, etc.
Strategic Plan Focus (1 of the 3 foci determined in strategic plan process for Board and Congregation): Family Ministry	Strategic Plan Focus (2 of the 3 foci determined in strategic plan process for Board and Congregation): Membership ; Location Task Force
Spiritual Exploration and Learning for Children & Youth (SEL-CY) : including children’s programing, parent circle, intergenerational services	Occasional intergenerational services
Outreach: SRC (social responsibility coalition), GVAT, denominational affairs	Outreach: lay chaplaincy, serving as chaplain at UVic, jazz vespers, writing articles for Times Colonist
Soul Matters Program (theme-based ministry: worship, workshops, small groups)	Spiritual Exploration and Learning for Adults (SELA) oversight: including chalice circles, AHA, spirituality, library, etc. Truth, Healing, & Reconciliation oversight
Property Management Council	Finance
Administration: HR Team Lead (staff meetings, HR system, staff compensation, etc.)	Administration: All Admin except HR; includes: church office, computers, communications
Denominational: attend UUMA, UUA GA, UUMOC, CUC meetings and conferences	Denominational: UUA Ministerial Fellowship Committee, mentor one UU minister, attend UUMA, UUA GA, UUMOC, CUC meetings and conferences

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Rev. Melora Supervises:	Rev. Shana Supervises:
Director of Spiritual Exploration and Learning for Children and Youth (who, in turn, supervises SELCY assistant(s) and Sunday child-minders)	Church Administrator (who, in turn, supervises office staff, custodians, and maintenance technician) Director of Music (who in turn, supervises Accompanist)

Contacting Your Co-Ministers

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

When are Rev. Melora and Rev. Shana available to see me?

The simpler answer:

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

The more detailed answer:

Usually, our work week looks something like this:

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

bottom line:

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

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

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

Orange Shirt Day
Sunday, September 30



September 30th has been declared Orange Shirt Day annually, in recognition of the harm the residential school system did to children's sense of self-esteem and wellbeing, and as an affirmation of our commitment to ensure that everyone around us matters.

(Note that schools may observe Orange Shirt Day on Friday, September 28, so feel free to wear your orange shirt to show support both Friday and Sunday!)

From orangeshirtday.org :

The Story Behind Orange Shirt Day

"I went to the Mission for one year. I had just turned 6 years old. We never had very much money, and there was no welfare, but somehow my granny managed to buy me a new outfit to go to the Mission School in. I remember going to Robinson's store and picking out a shiny orange shirt. It had eyelets and lace, and I felt so pretty in that shirt and excited to be going to school! Of course, when I got to the Mission, they stripped me, and took away my clothes, including the orange shirt. I never saw it again, except on other kids. I didn't understand why they wouldn't give it back to me, it was mine! Since then the colour orange has always reminded me of that and how my feelings didn't matter, how no one cared and how I felt like I was worth nothing. I finally get it, that the feeling of worthlessness and insignificance, ingrained in me from my first day at the mission, affected the way I lived my life for many years...I want my orange shirt back!" -- Phyllis (Jack) Webstad, Dog Creek, BC

This orange shirt taken from one child, is a symbol of the many losses experienced by thousands of students, and their families and communities, over several generations including: loss of family, language, culture, freedom, parenting, self-esteem and worth and painful experiences of abuse and neglect. Wearing orange shirts are a symbol of defiance against those things that undermine children's self-esteem, and of our commitment to anti-racism and anti-bullying in general.

http://www.orangeshirtday.org/uploads/7/9/8/7/79871818/orangeshirtday_14.pdf

"The annual Orange Shirt Day on September 30th opens the door to global conversation on all aspects of Residential Schools. It is an opportunity to create meaningful discussion about the effects of Residential Schools and the legacy they have left behind: a discussion all Canadians can tune into and create bridges with each other for reconciliation. Orange Shirt Day is a day for survivors to be reaffirmed that they matter, and so do those that have been affected. Every Child Matters, even if they are an adult, from now on!"

"The date was chosen because it is the time of year in which children were taken from their homes to residential schools, and because it is an opportunity to set the stage for anti-racism and anti-bullying policies for the coming school year. It is an opportunity for First Nations, local governments, schools and communities to come together in the spirit of reconciliation and hope for generations of children to come." From Orange Shirt Day Facebook Page, www.facebook.com/orangeshirtdayeverchildmatters

FROM REVEREND SHANA

One of the key pieces of response we heard in the ministerial evaluation in May was that many of you want us to experiment with styles of worship. Specifically, many of you asked to not just have hymns and sermon, but variety in how themes are explored. For that reason, many different styles and ways of presenting were invited to into the sanctuary for the summer services. The worship committee would welcome your sharing feelings and thoughts on how well the variety of services went. Did you find them meaningful? Challenging? Any that particularly worked for you or didn't? Please share your thoughts with ????? ***Should it be Anna and Dan and include your email addresses??***

SPIRITED JAZZ

Jazz Vespers Series

Enjoy jazz with a splash of spiritual inspiration in venues with exquisite sound and ambiance.

THE SUSANNAH ADAMS QUARTET, Theme: "As the Morning Light"

Sunday, September 16 at 7 pm,
Susannah Adams vocals, Gary Theal guitar, Richard Moody violin, Sean Drabitt bass
First Unitarian Church Victoria
By Donation and Greatly Appreciated

Those who have been appreciating the short trip on a country road to a beautiful setting with top jazz musicians, completed with the musings of Reverend Shana, will be sure not to miss this upcoming vespers featuring Susannah Adams. Her quartet's theme "As the Morning Light" is based on her newly released CD. <http://www.susannahadams.com/> Gliding with ease, Susannah Adams navigates the journey that each performer brings, and one would be forgiven for thinking Adams had been raised on these complex harmonies. However, it was not until she was in her twenties that Susannah was first introduced to the work of jazz. A refreshing combination of old fashioned innocence and self assurance, Susannah Adams sings timeless jazz standards as if she wrote them herself yesterday. Her delivery is cool, nuanced, yet deeply personal, in addition to which she has an alluringly sensual presence.



Two albums sparked her love affair with this endlessly creative genre. Miles Davis's *Kinda of Blues* and Billie Holiday's *The Best of Lady Day*. These sounds swept Susannah away as she was captivated by the endless beauty within this sphere. *Portrait of Sheila* is another formative collection, which remains a strong and steady guide. Over the past decade Adams has travelled the globe to be mentored by jazz legend Sheila Jordan, whose pure and bold innovation in the world of jazz has been profound inspiration.

"My dear you have an incredible sound and depth. It just knocked me out." -Sheila Jordan.

"Your sound is very sweet and delicate, but you hit all the hard stuff with swingin' verve. A good mix." - David Lennam, CBC

Born and raised in London, England, Adams now resides by the ocean in Victoria, BC with her husband and two children. She is often found singing to her ducks as she tends to her urban farm! And, in concert, she is often backed by a stellar line-up of coast musicians; Adams brings an impressive quartet to the last Spirited Jazz of the winter/spring 2017 season.

Spirited Jazz Evenings are constructed around a theme, which is reinforced and underlined, by the songs chosen and the words spoken. It is led by *the musicians* and Reverend Shana Lynngood, a minister whose backup career choice would be jazz singer. This style of jazz vespers allows time and space for music to speak to the soul.

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

Program of First Unitarian Church Victoria; <http://victoriaunitarian.ca/> <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Spirited-Jazz/852183648149312?ref=hl>

AUGUST 2018 REPORT FROM THE BOARD

Nadia's Son:

The Board expressed its sympathy to Nadia on the death of her son and offered support to her in the coming days when she will be away from the church office.

Strategic Planning

In June the board spent a day at UVic InterFaith facility on a retreat facilitated by Diana Smith to orient board members to the strategic plan "Where will the church be in 2020?". The board discussed progress on the three strategic priorities of Membership; Location/Place of Worship; and Family Ministry. On August 14, a brief was submitted to the board for discussion to deepen our understanding around the issues related to Membership.

The board also approved the Terms of Reference for the Task Force on Place of Worship and is proceeding to recruit one member of the board and four members of the Congregation to serve as members. Board president is also an automatic member. See accompanying article in this Newsletter "An Invitation to Submit an Expression of Interest for Task Force on Place of Worship".

CISV (Formerly Children's International Summer Village)

Our church had another successful rental experience with CISV when youth, aged 12-15 from Mexico, Canada, Peru, France, and Brazil presented their culture at their Open House on July 17 to experience this group in action. FUCV President and several other church members attended. CISV requested that the church office door be locked during the two-week period of their rental agreement. Thanks to John Tiffany for much attention to this special rental opportunity and to office staff for their patience when challenged with unfamiliar activity and noise. CISV hopes to return on a regular basis and we do love to host them in our beautiful facilities.

Abuse Prevention Plan Amendments

The Board approved an amendment to the operational procedures to the Guidelines when working with children. BMOD are now serving as the circulating adult to drop in periodically on the summer child-minding program. To qualify for this important work, each Board Member On Duty is in the process of being screened in accordance with the FUCV Abuse Prevention Plan.

ABC Campaign

Board approved a revised budget for the Annual Budget Campaign to include a very delicious, fun and much loved Pledge Lunch on October 14. Don't miss this one!

Finance Committee and 2019 Budget Cycle

The Finance Committee will meet September 5 and will then be asking Council Chairs to submit budget requests with emphasis on the three strategic initiatives of the board by Sept 30. Committee chairs can begin thinking about specific initiatives you plan to present for funding. A special Budget meeting of the Board will be convened on Dec. 11 to recommend the Budget before sending it to the Congregation for approval in January.

More dates to mark in your calendars:

Oct. 14, 2018 Pledge Lunch

Jan. 27, 2019 Congregational Meeting to approve 2019 Budget

May 26, 2019 Annual General Meeting

Building Access and Keys Policy A briefing note on Building Access and Keys Policies was submitted for discussion. John Tiffany and Earle Anthony have been appointed to develop a policy for board discussion and approval.

Resignation and Appointments to the FUCV Board Bill Glassman has resigned from the FUCV Board and as Administration Co-Chair. Bill looks forward to continuing to serve our church and congregation in areas that match his interests. He will be missed. Fortunately, Lynn Hunter has agreed to assume the Human Resources and Communications functions as Co-Chair of Administration Council with Bruce Nicol who is Co-Chair of Finance for Administration Council.

“AN INVITATION TO SUBMIT AN EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR TASK FORCE ON PLACE OF WORSHIP”

In considering as a strategic initiative the long-term sustainability and vibrancy of the First Unitarian Congregation of Victoria (FUCV), the Board of Director's will investigate the issue of location to consider all options and implications. This will include a thorough consideration of facts, history and options to inform choices that will work best for our community.



The Board is in the process of establishing a task force to inform the Board of Directors and congregation on ideas, facts, considerations and options for improving current use and considering new places and formats of worship.

We are now inviting board and Congregation members to submit an Expression of Interest to serve on this Task Force that will consist of one Minister *ex officio*, Board President, one Board member, and four congregational members. Subject matter specialists, when required, may be sought as advisors throughout the process.

Criteria for selecting Task Force members:

A church Member or Friend, familiar with Unitarian Universalism

Objective and open to other points of view

Available to do the required work and to attend meetings

A good listener, and diplomatic in handling opinions and emotions

Representative of diverse geographic areas, ages and genders

Skills will be required in the following areas: finance, property, research, programs, communications and congregational engagement.

At least one member will have some understanding of the history of our church.

The Board Executive will select Task Force Members.

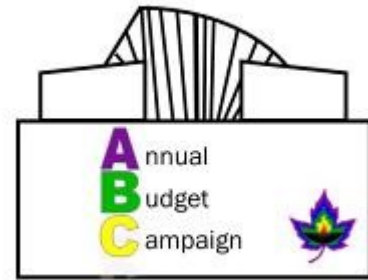
The Task Force will conduct its work through 2019.

Copies of the complete Terms of Reference will be available in the Church Office on the table inside the church office door.

Please send your submission no later than midnight, September 3, with Expression of Interest in the Subject line to President Marion Pape at marionpape@shaw.ca.

Annual Budget Campaign (ABC)

2018-2019



This year, your ABC Team will be hosting a 'Community Lunch'

on Pledge Sunday, October 14, 2018.

Watch for your invitation to lunch coming in mid-September!

Be part of this community event and let's pledge together as we build our commitment.

Pledge forms and 'Letters to the Congregation' will be handed out on the Thanksgiving Sunday to enable each of us to discern how much we are able to financially commit prior to our 'Community Lunch' on Sunday, October 14, 2018.

Your ABC Team

-Barbara Boyle, Marion Sollazzo, Barry Wiebe, Jen Young

HOW 2018 – SEE WHAT WE HAVE DONE

We are sending some help to a village in Tanzania where parents want to see their children educated so they can contribute to the new world coming. We are sending some help to the slums of Manila where young people are trapped in ignorance and poverty.

But our help will take time to bear fruit. Close your eyes to imagine what we have done.

Imagine the results 25 years from now. Kadosi in Tanzania, who slept those years ago in a school dorm we helped build because he could not walk the 20 kilometers to and from his home to school each day, is now a graduate, an engineer and soccer coach, with children hugging him each morning. A good citizen, aware of the wider world around him, doing what he can to ensure the children of his day pursue their dreams.

And 25 years from now in the partially rebuilt outskirts of Manila, Karmina is a teacher, who remembers the practical wisdom of the community workers we helped train and does everything she can to light up her students' imaginations.

By the time you read this, a cheque for \$5,000 plus will be on its way to Tanzania, to cover a portion of the cost for that school dorm. And a cheque for \$4,000 plus will be on its way to Manila, where it will be employed in training those critical community workers.

That's HOW 2018. You have set something alight not yet known, something you can only imagine, will never see. So rejoice a little now. And thank you.

-Don Vipond for the HOW Committee

SHARE THE PLATE FOR SEPTEMBER

The Victoria Literacy Connection (VLC) was formed in early 2017, but its roots reach much further back than this date. The VLC was created when the Boards of The Victoria READ Society and Literacy Victoria decided they would be stronger and more effective working together to reach a wider and deeper range of people who struggle with literacy in its various forms. Both founding organizations had a decades-long history of working to improve literacy, the former with children and the latter with adults.

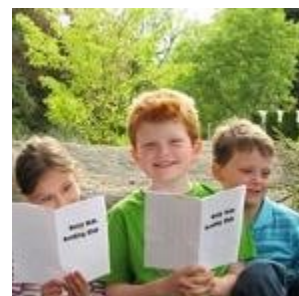
We help children, youth, and adults improve their literacy skills, including reading, writing, and math, by providing tutoring and a variety of other programs tutoring and a variety of other programs.

We provide two free-of-charge programs for vulnerable individuals who are in need of literacy support: Noisy Kids Reading Club and one to one Tutoring for Children, Youth and Adults.

We will use your Share-the-Plate donation to support these programs.

Studies show that children who are not reading at grade level often struggle with reading their whole lives, and adults need a standard level of literacy for employment, managing daily life, and helping their own children become literate

Noisy Kids Reading Club is an after-school literacy and numeracy reinforcement program for children in grades two to five who have been identified by their teachers as academically at risk. Studies have shown that children who are not reading at grade level by the end of grade four usually experience literacy challenges for the rest of their lives. Poor literacy skills are correlated with poor outcomes in many aspects of life: social, employment, civic engagement, interaction with the justice system, and life satisfaction. The Noisy Kids Reading Club is intended to intervene early to improve the chances for the children we are able to serve.



Child, Youth and Adult 1 to 1 Volunteer Tutoring Program provides learners with a trained tutor and an individualized program to address their particular literacy needs and goals. These goals range from increased capacity to manage school work, completing high school credits, achieving high school graduation, acquiring basic reading skills for everyday life or employment, or acclimatization of new Canadians and more. We work in community centres, coffee shops, libraries, our own office space - anywhere that is suitable and available free of charge. This program provides tutors to work with inmates at the Vancouver Island Regional Correctional Centre on general literacy and to help them acquire credits towards high school graduation.

The programs need financial support so we can offer them at no cost to the vulnerable learner. While commercial tutoring services exist, our learners are unable to afford these services. We serve those who need our services to improve their opportunity for an engaged and productive life.

Find out more at www.victorialiteracyconnection.ca and please consider a donation to support this important work. Contact Christine Bossi, our Executive Director if you are interested in volunteering or contributing on the Board of Directors. We appreciate the opportunity to connect with members of the First Unitarian Church.



Author and contact: and Barbara Newton, Director, Victoria Literacy Connection, 250-479-8061
banewt@shaw.ca

ARTIST OF THE MONTH: NATALIE BRAKE

Natalie Brake | Abstract Artist

Natalie is a mixed heritage Canadian-born abstract painter, living and working on Vancouver Island (traditional Lkwungen territory). She began her career in the arts as a professional Flamenco dancer under the direction of internationally acclaimed performer Fiona Malena (2004-2007). After an injury forced her to pivot, Natalie began experimenting with oil painting in abstraction (2009), and quickly realized her love for the visual arts. She has since studied various methods including acrylic glazing with Abstract Artist Dianne Neuman and in 2015, she briefly studied drawing with artist Nicole Sleeth. In 2016, Natalie began working with resin and has received a tremendous response from collectors and the public at large. She currently works out of her studio in Victoria BC, Canada, with collectors throughout the UK, USA and Mexico.

"I perceive an aliveness in everything, some type of force shaping experiences, objects, people, etc. My sense is that it is nature, or more precisely it's the energy of nature - whatever that is.

As a child I spent a lot of time outdoors with my father and I think it left an impression on me, not just on my senses but in my awareness of this energy that moves everything. Even today in a world where people are more insulated and the natural world is mostly contained, I believe that nature is the ultimate regulator. There is rarely a time when I am not tuned into that sense I have, it's always in my mental and emotional atmosphere" ~ Natalie Brake



Sunday 9 September is Homecoming Sunday and the Community Dinner Crew invites you to have Breakfast Before Church (BBC)! Breakfast will be served in the Lion Hall from 8:30 – 9:45ish. We will be serving pancakes, eggs, sausages, fruit salad and other supprize items!

Please come and enjoy a wonderful breakfast while visiting with friends new and old. Start the new Church year off with Breakfast Before Church!!

FAREWELL TO BRADEN, WELCOME TO ERIN

Sunday, September 2 will be Braden Young's last Sunday with us as Collaborative Pianist. After an extensive interview process Braden was offered and has accepted a position with an IT company based in Washington, DC. This exciting change of directions will enable him to continue playing and performing music but as a secondary career focusing on chamber music, which is where his musical goals lie.

As interim pianist beginning in September we welcome Erin Zipper, an accomplished keyboard player and collaborative musician who is relatively new to Victoria, originally from Madison, Wisconsin where she worked for many years as a freelance accompanist, music director, and piano/conductor.

We wish Braden all the best in his new career, and we welcome Erin to First Unitarian!

-Nick Fairbank



SONG CIRCLE – EVERYONE WELCOME



In the Sanctuary: 2:30pm-4pm Friday, October 5

**“Come join with me in a circle of song, the young and the old, the weak and the strong.
Singing with one voice, though we may speak different tongues, in the circle of song we are one”
Circle of Song by Tony Turner**

Last spring Chris Wulff (our ministerial intern), Jewel Spooner and Nancy Dobbs hosted five “Singing Around Circles”. The goal of the circles was to share favorite songs that we could learn from Chris, and that Chris could take with him. The congregation was invited to join us.

Jewel and Nancy have had requests to continue with Song Circles. You are invited to join us for songs of peace and joy...familiar, new, folk, world songs, light hearted, chants. Jewel will also lead a (optional participation) sacred dance.

-Nancy Dobbs and Jewel Spooner

"SPRUCE UP THE BUILDING PROPERTY DAY"

September 8, Saturday

8:30 AM - 1 PM

ALL INVITED

On September 8, Saturday, from 8:30 AM - 1 PM, all members and friends of FUCV are invited to an annual cleaning-up of various parts of our buildings. Work that needs to be done includes:

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

Suggestions: Please feel free to contact me with more ideas at johntiffany0705@gmail.com

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

Any people/committees with items stored in any of the basement storage areas are asked to go label those items for what they want kept before September 7 (so we can quickly toss out unwanted stuff on the actual day and not wait around to see what's what in these areas).

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

**-Property Management Council Chair
John Tiffany (Tiff)**



• **GVAT!! (GREATER VICTORIA ACTING TOGETHER)**

After our celebratory “event” on June 5th, where over 120 people representing 25 different organizations gathered to celebrate how much we had grown in strength and power over the last year, several of us took a break over the summer. There were, however, a few activities of note, i.e., Poor Persons Walk, a rally in support of creating a living wage for airport and hotel workers (Local 40) and a tour of the new Westshore Aids Vancouver Island Health Clinic and Naloxone training. We are now back and gaining momentum as we head into the Fall.

I am anticipating more listening campaign sessions in the upcoming weeks, as I know there are people with a continued interest. Our strategy team will be meeting in the next few weeks to discuss the responses collected from the conversations we conducted earlier in the spring and will start the process of concentrating on the themes that arose. Please consider taking the training workshop forum on the weekend of Friday, September 21st and Saturday, September 22nd at the BCGEU Hall (2994 Douglas St) This is an amazing opportunity to build relationships and create a stronger power base. Kindly RSVP to gvat.ca/sep2018training

-Susan Layng

Building Power for the Common Good Workshop

- Learn how to create strong foundations, to hold government and corporate interests in Greater Victoria to account.
- Begin to build relationships with diverse organizations, to have the power to win.
- Master the tools to help strengthen your organization and engage your members.
- Understand how relational organizing will lead us to concrete, winnable actions to transform our community.

FREE for member organizations. \$50 for non-member organizations (fee can be deducted from your dues when your organization becomes a member).

Childcare/ travel bursaries available - please enquire

Join us!

Friday 21st (6- 8PM) & Sat 22nd September (9:30 - 5PM)
MUST RSVP: <http://www.gvat.ca/sep2018training>

“COFFEE ON ME”

this a reminder and an invitation:

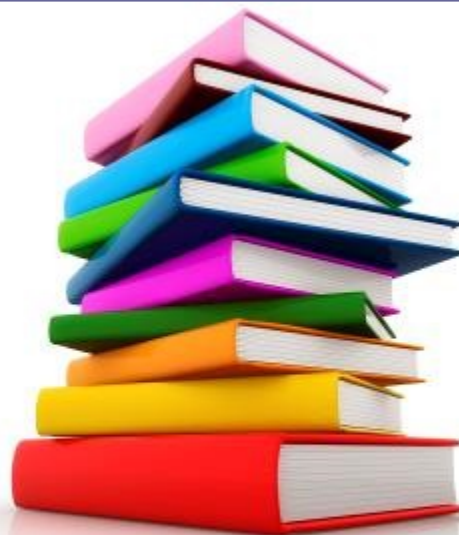
We would like to remind you about the opportunity to celebrate someone, or a special occasion, by donating \$30 towards Sunday coffee.

Your gift will be acknowledged on a poster placed on the hospitality (goodies) table. please see Nadia in the office and she will take care of your contribution and your poster.

With warm thanks from Hanny and Hugo,
coffee and tea hospitality co-ordinators.



Giant Book Sale and Bake Sale



Saturday September 22

9am to 3pm

First Unitarian Church of Victoria

5575 West Saanich Road



Paperbacks \$1

Soft Covers \$2

Hard Covers \$3

Vinyl \$1

CDs \$1

DVDs \$2

Payment by Cash Only

Browse the books then check out the Bake Sale

SALE PRICES FROM 2-3pm

GIANT BOOK SALE AND BAKE SALE

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 22

What do we need?

BOOKS. Please bring your books to the church library beginning September 2 or to the sanctuary on Wednesday September 19.

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

LOW BOXES. Please save any low boxes (produce boxes work well) to help us organize and display the books. We'll need the boxes **September 19.**

SORTERS. Opening the bags and boxes of books is like Christmas!

We'll sort from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on **Wednesday, September 19 and Thursday, September 20, 10:00-5:00.** It does help me to know which day you will come and whether you will come in the morning or afternoon.

SELLERS. Shifts are 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and 12:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m. **Saturday, Sept.22.**

Someone to blow up balloons at 8:30 am on Sat. Sept. 22.

PACKERS. We need a crew from **3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.** to pack up all the unsold books and get the sanctuary ready for Sunday. **Saturday, September 22.**

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

Last year, people were especially looking for non-sweet items, like muffins and bread. Pies are also a hot item.

PRICERS AND BAKE SALE SELLERS. Pricers 8:30-9:30. Sellers 8:30-12:00 & or earlier. **Saturday, September 22.**

12:00 -2:00

BUYERS. Tell your friends. Our book sale has a reputation for quality books.

And the prices are low.

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

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

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



Will you bake or contribute jam for our Bake Sale
on Saturday, September 22?

Last year the bake sale made \$850. People were especially looking for non-sweet items like bread or muffins, or gluten-free items. Pies are always a hot item. Jam, cookies, cupcakes, cakes and herbs or produce also sell. For cookies and other items, smaller amounts per package help us keep the price down and still charge a fair price for the cost of making them.

Please contact Lynne Bonner at lbonner@shaw.ca or 250-208-3663 if you are willing to contribute.

CARE AND CONCERN

Your Care and Concern Team is looking for individuals who are interested in taking on a service role in their respective neighbourhood groups.

The role involves being a **'good neighbour'** to those living in your area. Have a look at the position summary that follows this note.

If this interests you or you have further questions, please contact either Rev. Shana at rev.shana@victoriaunitarian.ca or Barbara Boyle at barbara.boyle@shaw.ca '

Thank you so much for your interest!

-Barbara Boyle

Care and Concern Position Summary First Unitarian Church of Victoria final June 2018

Thank you for being a Care and Concern (C&C) Representative for your Neighbourhood Group! Care and Concern is simply acting as a 'good neighbour.' Louise de Lugt, one of the C&C folks, describes the position this way: "It just involves keeping an ear out for those among us who might be ill or injured and in need of a visit or phone call or two. A call out to the Neighbourhood Group for offers of food may also be required depending on the situation. Sometimes a card to the individual can be organized for the congregation at church to sign and subsequently sent. Once a month, your C&C Liaison will email you for any update on the Neighbourhood Group as she's the overseer of three Neighbourhood Groups and attends the Care and Concern meetings at the church. At Christmas, those who are "shut-ins" appreciate a visit during which they get a card and a poinsettia that the church provides. As you can see, it doesn't require a lot of your time or effort."

Responsibilities as the Care and Concern (C&C) person within your Neighbourhood Group (NG) include:

- It may take some time to get to know everyone in your NG. Lists of who is in each NG are produced by the office twice a year. Hopefully, in time, everyone in your Group will know how to reach you.
- The office will notify you when someone moves into your Neighbourhood Group (through joining as a New Member or Friend or through moving out of one NG and into another). When that happens, please call to welcome them and introduce yourself as the Care and Concern person for your NG. Leave your phone number so that they can contact you easily.
- If someone is ill or in hospital, call your C&C liaison so they can report to ministers and the C&C chair (or email all three at once). If anyone is ill, in hospital, or is having difficulty: discern the level of confidentiality with which they are comfortable ("Is it alright if I let others in the congregation know of your concern?"). Listen carefully to which parts of their situation (if any) are ok to share. Then, as appropriate, offer and/or coordinate help: visits, meals, rides to appointments, cards of support. Call on other members of your Neighbourhood Group to assist you.
- When someone in your NG needs support, as appropriate, put out a card for the congregation to sign after Sunday service. A supply of cards is kept in the church office along with information on the procedure for putting out a card.
- You may be asked to assist your NG Convenor in hosting a Memorial in the event that someone in your NG passes away.
- Your C&C liaison will be in touch with you at least once a month to get an overall report from you, which s/he then brings to the monthly C&C core meeting with the minister and C&C chair. Thank you for helping to care for the members and friends of our beloved community!

A Glance at the BC Government's Three Proposed PR Systems

The BC Government has proposed three different proportional representation (PR) systems for this fall's referendum. These PR systems are:

1. **Dual Member proportional (DMP)** representation
2. **Mixed Member Proportional (MMP)** representation
3. **Rural Urban (RU) proportional** representation

MMP was reviewed in this past May's newsletter, and another system, Single Transferable Vote (STV) in the June newsletter. STV *per se* will not be on the ballot in the fall, but it is incorporated in one of the systems being proposed: the RU system. You will find a sheet on the SRC shelf explaining the systems. Here's a summary.

Dual Member Proportional Representation "was designed to meet Canada's unique needs." It has not yet been used. Pairs of current electoral districts are combined to give half as many districts as now, but each has two MLAs, so the number of MLAs remains the same. The ballot specifies the parties in the election and names of the first and second candidates for each party. You mark the ballot with an X against the party and first candidate you prefer. The first candidate with the most votes is elected as the MLA in your electoral district, as in our current First Past the Post system. Second candidates on the ballot are used in a complicated but logical analysis to elect MLAs in proportion to the votes each party received; the second MLA may not be from the same party as the first.

MMP representation is the system most political parties favour. The ballot has two parts. In the first part, you vote as you do now for a local MLA representative, marking the ballot with an X. In the second part of the ballot you vote for the party you prefer. The ballot may list who the candidates are and allow you to vote for a specific regional candidate in the party of your choice ("open list"). You may not be given that choice ("closed list"), but Fair Vote Canada has strongly recommended the government allow an open list. MMP is used in Germany and New Zealand (among other places) where it works well and is popular, but it is the system most open to government manipulation.

Rural Urban PR is a hybrid system: in large rural electoral districts (chiefly northern B.C.) people vote using the MMP system; in urban (city) electoral districts people vote using STV. The main features of STV are that 2-7 of the current electoral districts are combined to give voters a much greater choice of candidates to represent them locally. The analysis of votes is complex, but logical. STV is resistant to government manipulation. It is used in Malta, parts of Ireland and other places. The RU system itself has not yet been used.

See <http://www.fairvote.ca/bc-pr-systems/> and the sheet on the SRC shelf for more complete descriptions of these systems. Please email questions to Philip at philmar@islandnet.com; we will try to answer them personally or at an after-service forum on electoral systems that we will organize for the fall.

FROM THE FOUNDATION...

Did you know that the **FOUNDATION** of the Unitarian Church gives out bursaries to First Nations annually to attend Camosun College as well as to the Music Committee for hiring musicians?

Foundation Secretary, Peter Hancock, donating a cheque for four First Nations Camosun College bursaries to Phillip Symons of SRC.



Emily Whitney, a Foundation Director, donating funds to Nancy Dobbs to support the Music Committee in hiring musicians when the choir is not performing.



LEGAL STATUS OF PERSONHOOD FOR NATURE?

In March, 2018 the Quebec government decided to allow a small herd of caribou to die off instead of taking the necessary steps to protect and rebuild habitat lost to economic exploitation. The Val-d'Or woodland caribou herd, once very numerous, have been decimated by logging and mining. The government explained that the cost is too great to save the herd because their habitat has been too greatly degraded. This should be a reminder to us that economic activity should be handled in such a way as to co-exist with forests, rivers and lakes and native mammals – they are living entities too. Should rights be extended to entities other than humans and corporations?

In March 2017 a New Zealand river revered by the Maori was recognized by parliament as a 'legal person', in a move believed to be a world first. Western legal precedent was combined with Maori mysticism in declaring the Whanganui river a living entity. The act of parliament deems the river a single living being 'from the mountains to the sea, incorporating its tributaries and all its physical and metaphysical elements'. The Attorney-General Chris Finlayson stated that the river Whanganui will have its own legal identity with all the corresponding rights, duties and liabilities of a legal person.

The Maori *imi*, or tribe, has been fighting to assert their rights over the river since the 1980s in the longest-running legal dispute in New Zealand. The river, known by Maori as '*Te Awa Tupua*', is the third longest in New Zealand. In practical terms, it means the river can be represented at legal proceedings with two lawyers protecting its interests, one from its guardian, the Maori *imi*, and one the government. So legal proceedings and battles that have lasted generations have been replaced in New Zealand with legislation that recognizes the rights of Indigenous peoples and the living entities of the land including habitat.

Should we Canadians designate legal status to our major rivers one river at a time in consultation with 'First Nations? Should the government appoint 'Indigenous stewards' to represent the legal rights of those rivers in consultation with, and approval by an Aboriginal Parliament? It was recommended by the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples (RCAP), an order of government different from municipal or Provincial Governments. Corporations hold certain legal rights as 'persons' – a strange legal precedent; but that makes the giving of 'personhood' rights to nature more reasonable in the context of 'the interdependent web of life' upon which we all depend. Should we start with the rivers of the Sacred Head Waters of the Tahltan - the rivers Nass, Stikine and Skeena? The sacred headwaters topped the endangered rivers list in 2011. Today, they are still without legal protection. Let us give them legal status so that they can be defended by appointed 'stewardship-keepers.'



Skeena River

PRIDE REPORT UPDATE



With special thanks to the Pride Team of 2018, I wish to acknowledge Nancy Dobbs, Andy Lee, Kym Hines, Liz and Mike Graham; Frances and Peter Hancock and the many other volunteers who gave of their time and talent to make this year's Pride Parade and Festival an amazing success!

[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is

This year, the Pride Society was late with its publication of information to parade and festive participants. This left the team unable to tell the congregation current details regarding time and place to gather prior to the commencement of the parade. As a result, we were not able to have anything published in the E-Weekly. Due to the parade now starting at 11:00AM – an hour earlier than previous years, it was very challenging for members to get to the parade start on time. It has been recommended that the Board consider holding our service an hour earlier, combining with Capital or cancelling it altogether.

Twenty participants carried our church standard and the long multi-coloured pride banner, but more would have been very welcome. It has been suggested that some could carry signs bearing words which reflect our principles, i.e., Inclusivity; Environment; Compassion; Integrity, etc.

Tent set-up started at 8:30 and the booth required staffing throughout the morning, until volunteer shifts began. Next year, it will be recommended that, those willing to miss both the parade and the service begin as booth volunteers as early as 11:00 in order to be available to chat with people mingling in the festival grounds. Andy generously created a beautiful set of photographs illustrating congregational life, accompanied by words reflecting our values. After the parade, our large banner was used to drape the tent and table. Liz Graham has graciously volunteered to create another identifying banner to hang on the front flange of the tent to prominently identify First Unitarian. For 2019, it has been suggested that we rent two spaces at the festival with an area specifically created for children's activities. We are excited to build on some of these excellent ideas to promote our faith community and we welcome your participation next year!

-Susan Layng – Outreach Chair

FROM DAVID DUBBEDAM

Dear FUCV friends,

I cannot believe it has been over twelve years since I left Victoria! Life has been full and rewarding since then and when talking with Lynn Hunter recently, I realized you'd probably like an update about what is going on in my life.

Philadelphia has become our home, and like Victoria, is a place where both of "the Davids," as we've become known (me and my husband David Devan), have thrived. My David has been doing amazing things at Opera Philadelphia, garnering attention from across the globe for the innovative and engaging work that Opera Philadelphia is doing under his leadership.

Since leaving you, I've also been very busy. As many of you are aware, I have been working towards becoming a UU chaplain. Since 2006, I've completed a Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies at the University of Pennsylvania and a Master of Divinity from the Lancaster Theological Seminary, a United Church of Christ affiliated seminary in Lancaster, PA. I've also done several years of clinical chaplaincy training at two different large hospitals here in Philadelphia, most recently completing a year-long 60-hour a week residency at Einstein Medical Center, a trauma level 1 hospital.

Additionally, I've been volunteering for many years at a church in downtown Philadelphia that serves the needs of the most vulnerable in our community but in a trauma-informed manner they call radical hospitality.

I have also been co-chairing a taskforce for the UU Society for Community Ministries (UUSCM). That taskforce is considering the possibility of UUSCM becoming an endorsing body for lay people seeking professional certification as chaplains from the Board of Chaplaincy. This would allow those seeking careers only in chaplaincy to become board certified without having to become fully ordained.

As I write this, I am in the midst of expecting a job offer for a hospice chaplain position for a major health system in the region. I would be visiting people and their loved ones in their homes to support them through the process of dying.

At the end of November, I will be going before the Ministerial Fellowship Committee whose responsibility is to see if I am competently prepared to enter the UU ministry. I'm confident (but healthily nervous) that they will grant me preliminary fellowship after meeting me. Once that happens, I will be able to seek ordination. My hope is to be ordained by both you and my current congregation, the UU Church of the Restoration in early 2019, here in Philadelphia. Both you and UUCR voted in 2013 to sponsor me for the UU ministry, so I hope you will again vote to ordain me. Stayed tuned!

In mutual faith,
David Dubbeldam



CORRECTION FOR AUGUST NEWSLETTER-

Question 6, which follows, was omitted from the coverage of the Ministerial Survey in August issue of the newsletter; Question 7 was mistakenly inserted twice.

Q6: Which of the following (if any) inform your spiritual practice? Please select all that apply.

Answered: 108 Skipped: 2

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Theist (I believe in some sort of god or god-force, the way I define 'god')	25.93%	28
Atheist (I don't believe in any sort of god or god-force)	15.74%	17
Agnostic (I don't know or can't know whether there is any sort of god or god-force)	23.15%	25
Humanist (as you define it)	28.70%	31
Spiritual (as you define it)	50.00%	54
Unitarian Universalist (as you define it)	61.11%	66
Buddhist	12.04%	13
Jewish	2.78%	3
Christian	8.33%	9
Hindu	0.93%	1
Muslim	1.85%	2
Indigenous Spirituality	8.33%	9
Pagan or Earth Centered traditions	19.44%	21
The natural world	34.26%	37
Other	3.70%	4
Total Respondents: 108		

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

WILMA!

Our Mom, Wilma Neilson, turned 91 on July 24th!! I was hoping you could pass on the message to those in the church that know Mom that although her day to day energy is slowing up, Mom's positive spirit continues to shine brightly. I appreciate those in the church community that continue to touch base c/o myself.

We had a full weekend of family acknowledging Mom's birthday; her 91 years have been a gift to so many for so many reasons! I remember the lovely book that the church congregation made for Mom's 90th birthday last year; that was very special and heartwarming to read!

I'll leave you with a couple of recent pictures of Mom. I wish you well and may the summer sunshine continue to bless us!

Sincerely, Mary Kelly, (Wilma Neilson's daughter)



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.

Cadboro Bay: On August 11 and 12, Peter and Fran Hancock hosted the Beer, Bocci, and Burgers event offered in the church auction and it was so popular that they did it twice, with support from Cadboro Bay NG and Royal Oak West NG. Fran reports, "Thanks to the efforts and the organizing skills of the respective NG *chefs d'equip*, Earle Anthony and Shirley Travis, the bocci events were accompanied by laughter, a spirit of friendly competition and enthusiastic participation. Prizes were awarded for attendees, the *chefs d'equip* and as well the champions. As winners on Saturday, Roberta Claire and Pat Conroy are challenging those from the Sunday tournament of Martha Hoffman and Bruce Nicol (all of whom will face stiff handicaps in the future). The real winner was the church with over \$1,000 raised in the two day event with an outpouring of salads, beer, desserts and donations from both NG's, not to mention the warm spirit of community that is derived from these shared experiences. Royal Oak West graciously stepped up with 13 members bidding on the two day bocci events: Isabelle, Francois, Evan, Lynne, Astrid, Andy, Lesley, Kent, Dee, Martha, Al, Chris and Shirley. Thank you everyone for your ongoing support!"

Esquimalt: Maureen Sherlock writes, "Esquimalt NG had a potluck dinner on Friday, August 10, hosted by Gloria and John Hopewell. Eighteen of us were there to enjoy a delightful summer evening together."

Fairfield: This NG is looking ahead to host a Souper lunch in November and is also saying goodbye to several members of their group who are moving out.

Far Out: This group was busy in August providing coffee time goodies.

James Bay: Lynn Hunter writes, "The James Bay Neighbourhood Group is having a relaxed summer but some of us joined other members of our congregation for dinner and a pub night at the Canoe Brew Pub on August 6. Lots of good conversation ensued. We will have a potluck again in the fall". James Bay is also gearing up to host the Souper on September 30 with Western.

Nearby: Nancy Dobbs sends this, "Nearby had an almost Potluck in August...but, it was during a heat wave and too hot for hosting. We hope to try again in early fall. Bob Van Alstyne had a stroke on July 23 and is in Victoria General Hospital. If you would like to visit, please contact Bert MacBain 250 652 2210".

Oak Bay: Mary Burcher writes, "OBNG will be recommencing potlucks in September or October. We plan to try something new. Since many of our neighbours live in homes where they are unable to host a gathering, we are setting up a schedule in which they sign up to assist the hosts by welcoming people, answering questions, serving drinks, clearing dishes, directing recycling, etc. This should take a load off of the hosts who graciously offer their homes time after time. We look forward to learning some of the lesser-known aspects of people's lives by having 'meaningful questions' as themes of our gatherings. In the past such questions have revealed truths about neighbours that bond us as a group".

Royal Oak East: Hanny Pannekoek is happy to report, "Our next potluck gathering will be on Tuesday, September 18. Our two newest members, Shirley and Gisele, will be our hosts, at the home of Shirley".

Royal Oak West: Martha McDougall writes, "The Royal Oak West group is gearing up to supply the goodies for after the Sunday services during the month of September. Our last get together was in mid-July and we are hoping to arrange something for the early fall. If anyone would like to host an event please contact Martha".

Western: This NG will be strapping on their aprons to work with James Bay to host the Souper lunch on September 30.

Northern Vietnam & Angkor Wat: A Mindful Journey

A pilgrimage is different from a vacation even though it looks like one. On a vacation we are likely to “take in” the scenery, the people, and the culture. We take pictures of each interesting and amazing thing. More is better when you are “taking in.” After a while though, we become full. And when we are full, we can miss the beauty we have gone half way around the world to see.

On a Pilgrimage the focus is different. Instead of looking outside, we are also noticing what is happening inside ourselves. How does the beauty we see affect us? How do different customs and morals make us question our values? How can we allow the difference in human culture to teach us? Even history can remind us life is precious and temporary, no matter how grand or beautiful it may appear. A Pilgrimage includes two journeys, the one we visit and the one inside our hearts and minds.

On this trip we immerse ourselves in the scenery, history, and traditions of northern Vietnam and Cambodia. We visit monasteries to meditate at an eclectic collection of temples, learn about Zen and Theravada practices from monks and novices, hike in the outstanding natural environment of the Sapa highlands, and marvel at the ethereal beauty of Halong Bay. And at Angkor Wat, we spend time at the abode of ancient gods. If you have a little more time available, consider extending your stay in Luang Prabang replete with timeless architecture, gilded temples, and saffron-clad monks.

MARCH 15-27, 2019

COST: US\$4245



GROUP SIZE: 12-18 PARTICIPANTS

MORE INFO: https://www.worldwidequest.com/index.php?page=trips&cmd=review&key=northern_vietnam_angkor_wat_a_mindful_journey#ad-image-0

UNITARIAN WOMEN'S RETREAT AT BETHLEHEM CENTER

Sheila Drew would like to invite you to join me at the women's retreat from September 21-23, 2018.

Fee is \$325.

Location: Bethlehem Retreat Centre, 2371 Arbot Road, Nanaimo, BC V9R 6S9 <https://bethlehemcentre.com/>

Please join us for the 2018 Unitarian Women's Retreat at the Bethlehem Retreat Centre, which is located in a serene setting overlooking Westwood Lake in Nanaimo. There is a walking trail around the lake, and a garden labyrinth for walking and meditation. The Centre supplies towels, bedding, pillows and comforters. Each woman has a single room to use for the weekend and washrooms are shared. There are four accessible bedrooms available in the main building for those with limited mobility.

The retreat runs from Friday late afternoon to Sunday after lunch, and includes Friday dinner, Saturday and Sunday breakfast and lunch, and Saturday dinner as well as snacks.

There will be a nature workshop, crafts, singing, an exchange table for jewelry, books and small items, a Sunday service and much more. Be prepared for a lovely, relaxing, rejuvenating weekend.

More info: Theresa Marion, tmarion3@yahoo.com;

Sheila Drew in Victoria 250-598-1884 sheiladrew@shaw.ca

Bursaries and partial bursaries are available.

MEMORIAL AVENUE REDEDICATION SEPTEMBER 29

Planned by Ray Travers who for many years planned and led our Congregational November 11 Services. This event is supported by our Outreach Council.

- In 2018 of this plan, street signs were developed by Saanich Parks and the Saanich Sign Shop. These street signs (thirty) will be installed later this year on both sides of Shelbourne Street, between North Dairy Road and Mt Douglas Park.
- In 2018 of this plan, four interpretive panels on World One History and its impact on the people back home were prepared by Memorial Committee Member Alan Macleod. These will be installed later..
- The third event in 2018 will be the Rededication Ceremony for Memorial Avenue on North Shelbourne, Saturday September 29, 2018. This Ceremony will be a dignified tribute to the 100th Anniversary of the World War One Armistice (1918) , and a re-commitment of the greater Victoria citizens to establishing Memorial Avenue on Shelbourne from Mt Douglas Park in Saanich, potentially south to Bay Street in the City of Victoria.

-Ray Travers, Chair, Memorial Avenue Committee. 250-477-8479

<https://www.goldstreamgazette.com/news/new-signs-will-memorialize-saanichs-shelbourne-street/>



Members' Birthdays:

- 1 Kathleen Zimmerman
- 2 Stephen Lentz
- 3 Zahira North
- 4 Sam Harris, Caleb Tilson
- 7 Louise Cole, Sarah Versteegen
- 8 Andrea Pite and John Waters
- 9 Sam Tilson
- 10 Christine Petronis, Bruce Stirling
- 11 Shirley d'Estrube
- 12 Sheldon Crisp
- 13 Anne Vaasjo
- 15 Tobin McTaggart
- 16 Evangeline Belisle
- 17 Suzanne Garmsen
- 18 Peter Hancock
- 20 June Fukushima
- 22 Lini Henderson, Elinor Bazar
- 23 Ed Daniel
- 24 Bert MacBain
- 25 Clare Vipond
- 26 Renate Herberger
- 28 Charles Niven
- 30 Sandra Jaques



New Members and Friends

New Member: Bruce Nicol

Contact Info Changes

Doug McGinnis
 New address: 941 Foul Bay Road, Victoria, BC.
 V8S 4H9.
 NG stays the same (Oak Bay)

Board Members on Duty

September 2	Marion Pape
September 9	John Tiffany
September 16	Lorna Anthony
September 23	Nancy Dobbs
September 30	Lynn Hunter

JUBILATION: VICTORIA'S MULTIFAITH CHOIR

WHAT: Jubilation is a non-auditioned choir for adults of all ages and faiths, who love to sing songs that are inspirational and uplifting. No previous performing experience is necessary, but a commitment to regular, weekly rehearsals is needed. Vocal and choral training are included in rehearsals, along with a lot of fun and camaraderie. The choir brings great joy through its performances to both community and faith-based events.

HISTORY: Jubilation started in 2017 as a Bahá'í-inspired singing group and is growing into a truly multi-faith choir. Its founders are Laura Lee (producer), Anne-Marie Brimacombe (choral director) and Peter Brimacombe (accompanist/arranger).

CHORAL DIRECTOR: Originally from the Caribbean and trained at the Royal Academy of Music in England, Anne-Marie Brimacombe has been widely celebrated as an outstanding singer, music teacher, choral director and show producer. Her students and performing groups have won numerous awards locally and provincially, and have performed with recording artists including Raffi, Ashley MacIsaac, the Nylons, the Chieftains and Anne Mortifee. Mrs. Brimacombe was recipient of the CFA Arts Leader of the Year Award and the Saanich Peninsula Hearts of the Community Award. She has been Guest Presenter at the National Association of Canadian Choral Conductors and she currently also directs Victoria's integrated REACH! Performing Company: www.westcoastreach.org/

FOR MORE INFORMATION about visiting a rehearsal, joining Jubilation, or booking performances, please contact Anne-Marie at 250-882-4339, email: ambrimacombe@gmail.com

WHEN AND WHERE: Rehearsals are on Wednesdays (re-starting for the fall term on Sept. 5), 7:00-8:30 p.m. at Centennial United Church, corner of David St. and Hillside Ave. in Victoria (entrance off David St.). Please call ahead if you'd like to visit.

You are invited to visit a rehearsal, or join (and sing your heart out).

Performance bookings are also being taken.

COST: A voluntary contribution of \$5.00 is suggested per rehearsal to help defray the costs of the room rental, etc. Members are also asked to provide their own clothing for performances.

First Unitarian Church of Victoria

5575 West Saanich Road • Victoria BC • V9E 2G1 • 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.

Minister Emerita

Reverend Jane Bramadat

250-652-1272

Lay Chaplains

laychaplains@victoriaunitarian.ca

Oceanna Hall 250-886-1077

Kjerstin Mackie 250-598-5975

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
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Communications Assistant

Natalie Brake
communications@victoriaunitarian.ca

Officers

President	Marion Pape
Past President	Lorna Anthony
Vice President	Steve Sharlow
Treasurer	Earle Anthony
Secretary	Kathleen Zimmerman

Board Members

Trustee	Bruce Nicol
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?
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Tell them about FUCV's

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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

Calendar Highlights

September 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 9:00 Ippen Wedding 10:30 Depression & Anxiety Support 12:45 Buddhist Meditation
2 10:30 Sunday Service* 11:30 Coffee and Tea Time	3 LABOUR DAY 10:00 Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:30 FUCV Pub Night	4	5 12:45 MIME	6 6:00 Choir Rehearsal	7	8 9:00 Annual "Spruce Up the Building Day" 9:30 Worship Associate Training 12:45 Buddhist
9 7:30 Breakfast before Church 10:30 Sunday Service 11:30 Coffee and Tea Time	10 10:00 Bell Choir Rehearsal 1:00 ABC Meeting	11 11:00 Sandy Merriman Cooking 12:00 Board Meeting 2:30 SRC MTG	12 11:00 Committee on Ministry Meeting 12:45 MIME 1:00 Care & Concern	13 6:00 Choir Rehearsal	14 6:00 Community Dinner	15 10:00 SRC Annual Retreat 10:30 Depression & Anxiety Support 12:45 Buddhist Meditation
16 10:30 Sunday Service 11:30 Coffee and Tea Time 12:00 THR (Truth Healing Reconciliation) 12:15 Share the Plate	17 10:00 Bell Choir Rehearsal 11:45 Ishiguro Yoga	18 6:00 Book Sale Setup	19 10:00 Book Sale Setup 12:45 MIME	20 9:00 Book Sale Setup 6:00 Choir Rehearsal	21 9:00 Book Sale Setup	22 9:00 Book Sale 12:45 Buddhist Meditation
23 10:30 Sunday Service 11:30 Coffee and Tea Time	24 10:00 Bell Choir Rehearsal 11:45 Ishiguro Yoga	25	26 12:45 MIME	27 6:00 Choir Rehearsal	28	29 12:45 Buddhist Meditation
30 10:30 Sunday Service 11:30 Coffee and Tea Time 11:30 Souper Sunday						

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We will meet for eight sessions on Wednesdays from 1-3pm in the Lion Hall beginning Sept 5.

Please contact Mitra at mitra.atma@shaw.ca or 250-580-8888 to register.

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For those without e-mail, copy may be left at the church
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