



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

SERVICES IN APRIL

Welcome to the month of
Liberation

SUNDAY SERVICES BEGIN AT 10:30 am

April 5

HOMILIST: Rev Melora

TITLE: **Are We Both the Prison and the Key?**

CHOIR: Chalice Choir

WA: Kressa Sisu

An introduction to this month's theme of "What does it mean to be a people of liberation?" tailored to these times in which we live. A question to consider, "these days, what is it from which you need to be freed?" A quotation from our Soul Matters network to guide us: "True wisdom comes in understanding that sometimes, you are both the prison and the key." - Johnathan Jena

April 12

HOMILIST: Rev Shana

TITLE: **In Need of Resurrection**

CHOIR: Bell Choir

WA: Shelley Motz

This Easter morning, as we continue to explore what it means to be a people of liberation, we will look to the Easter story and wonder what resurrection would mean for us and look like in these troubled times.

April 19

HOMILIST: : Ken Wu

TITLE: **The Allure of Ecosystems**

CHOIR: Piano

WA: Lynne Bonner

Ken Wu's love of nature and his perseverance in protecting what he cherishes was evident from his teenage years when he worked to protect the Central Walbran Valley. In this Earth Day service he will be giving an presentation on endangered ecosystems (with some magnificent photos) and the efforts to protect them. Ken earned a Bachelor of Science Degree from UBC in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology. He worked as the Executive Director and Campaign Director for the Wilderness Committee's Victoria chapter, from 1999 to 2010. He is the former Executive Director and co-founder of the Ancient Forest Alliance. More recently Ken has worked to establish a new national environmental organization, the Endangered Ecosystems Alliance that works for the science-based protection of all native ecosystems across Canada.

Livestream begins each Sunday by 10:25 am. To view [please click on this link](#). To view past worship services (as of Jan. 27) [click on this link](#).

Services continued...

April 26

TITLE: And now for something completely different

SPEAKERS: Rev Shana & Arran Liddel **CHOIR:** Chalice choir

WA: Samantha Magnus

How do we react when liberation is something completely different than what we were expecting? Let's practice what we preach and prepare to be surprised!

April 26 from 7-8pm

Spirited Jazz with the Fifth Street Quintet

WHAT DOES LIBERATION MEAN?

REV. SHANA

As I sat down to write this month's column for the newsletter, I realized the usual formula simply wouldn't cut it. What does it mean to be a people of liberation has a very different ring to it in these days of COVID-19. Often when we think of liberation it feels synonymous with freedom. We long to be liberated from all the things that hold us back or down or keep us from being who we feel and know ourselves to be. We think of liberation in terms of the systems of our society which inhibit rather than encourage. We picture liberation as thriving and growing.

In these days, however, liberation seems most fitting in relationship to fear. How can I take the concerns about this virus and its spread seriously while not giving in to panic, complete isolation, and fear about its outcome? How can I be cautious and express my care for others? What would liberation from fear look like now?

I would suggest that although much about this virus is deeply worrisome, it will cause us to be more creative in finding ways to connect, to feel free even in the midst of staying home. We will find ways to call and go online and share poems and videos and other words of inspiration and wisdom. Even when we can't be together in person--we will seek ways to connect. We will take the virus seriously, we will do our part to diminish its spread, but we will not allow it to keep us from caring for one another.

What do you need liberation from? What is holding you back from within? What is confining you from without?

See you--one way or another--in the days to come.

Love and blessings,

Rev. Shana



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FROM THE EDITORS: GUIDELINES FOR YOUR SUBMISSIONS

We try to standardize the presentation, to avoid the dog's breakfast aspect...

1. Where possible we use Calibri font.
2. One space between sentences and between lines.
3. No pdf files, please, use Word. Send pictures in jpegs.. Don't send text as jpegs.
4. Take the deadline seriously!

**The newsletter deadline is the
15th of the month
EVERY MONTH!**

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:

Andy Lee, Chair, Lorna Anthony, Jeri Dause, Bill Glassman, Jan Thomson, Suellen Guenther.

NEED A RIDE TO CHURCH?

Check "Ridesharing" <https://victoriaunitarian.ca/directions/>

Theme Questions

Here are the Soul Matters questions for pondering this month:

Have you become more or less free as you've aged?

For you, what is the opposite of liberation?

Do you need to liberate yourself from the ordinary?

Do you need a new metaphor for your liberation? After all, telling yourself "I need to escape" is very different than "It's time for me to finally leap." Or maybe it's time for you to "break free" or "let go" or "refuse to carry it anymore." For some, liberation is found in "refusing to run away." For others, it's about "allowing myself to feel I deserve it." How about you?

Who needs to be released from the box you've put them in?

Do you need to let yourself out of the box you've put yourself in?

Office Hours

OFFICE HOURS
Sunday: 9am - 1pm
Monday: 9am - 3pm

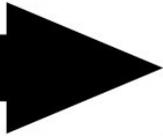
Tuesday: 9:am - 4pm
Wednesday: 9am - 4pm
Thursday: 10am - 4pm

Shannon's Hours:
Tuesday: 10am - 4pm
Wednesday: 10am - 4pm
Thursday: 10am - 4pm

Niki's Hours:
Sunday: 9am - 1pm
Monday: 9am - 3pm
Tuesday: 9am - 1pm
Wednesday: 9am - 1pm
Thursday: 12pm - 4pm

We are pushing Auction Fever 2020 to June 19

SHORT TERM STORAGE

THIS WAY 



We have decided to postpone Auction Fever 2020 in response to the COVID-19 crisis. We are hoping to have the auction on **JUNE 19**. In the interim, please continue to make your offers for the auction to Suellen (sguenther@shaw.ca or 250-727-0454) or

Fran (hancockf@telus.net or 250-477-1310).

YOUR DONATIONS ARE EVEN MORE IMPORTANT NOW TO OUR CHURCH COMMUNITY.

Mark Your Calendar!

COVID-19 VIRUS PERMITTING!

EcoGames

Plus

Electric Vehicle and E-Bike Showcase!



What: Come and celebrate the accomplishments of our 100 EcoGames participants! Then, check out some of the cool EVs and E-bikes belonging to members of our congregation! Get free, unbiased advice and maybe even go for a spin!

When: Sunday, May 24, 12-2 pm.

Where: Church Sanctuary and parking lot.

Miki Morita
www.mikimorita.art
mikimoritaart@gmail.com

Miki Morita was born in Osaka, Japan and now lives in Victoria, B.C. Canada. The main focus of her work is realistic nature painting.



Miki gets her inspiration from the beauty of West Coast nature and wildlife; especially, the orca as an iconic symbol of west coast waters. It is her love of orcas that first brought her to Vancouver Island and kept her there. Ultimately, her passion for art and wildlife has guided her through life and is reflected in her depictions of sea to sky wildlife. Her paintings capture the beauty of creatures in their surroundings, telling the stories of them, their families, and the places they live.

In Japan, Miki studied calligraphy for ten years under the master calligrapher Shingyo Ozawa. She then completed a college diploma in painting followed by a certificate in interior design. In 1998, Miki moved to Victoria and began studying ceramics, then went to receive a B.A. with honour in History in Art from the University of Victoria in 2006. Miki took a break from art but, unable to ignore her passion, she started painting again in 2014.



Since then, her work has continued to gain popularity and has been accepted into many art shows. At the 2016 Sooke Fine Arts Show, her painting “Morning Cruise” was purchased by a collector in the first 15 minutes of the pre-show viewing. At Victoria Chapter Federation of Canadian Artists 2019 Fall Juried Show, her “Ravens’ Game” took 3rd place. She is currently an active member of Federation of Canadian Artists.



Her paintings are found in private collections across Canada, in US, Australia, France, and Japan.

“When we least expect it, life sets us a challenge to test our courage and willingness to change; at such a moment, there is no point in pretending that nothing has happened or in saying that we are not yet ready. The challenge will not wait. Life does not look back. A week is more than enough time for us to decide whether or not to accept our destiny.” **Paulo Coelho, The Devil and Miss Prym**

Yes, this describes the situation. We are well into the FUCV response to COVID19. Massive change is upon us and our adaptation is naturally wobbly. We take one step at a time and adjust as we go along. The situation changes daily. Decisions must be made quickly; we find our creativity because the world is a different place than we have ever experienced before.

In these difficult times, we search for a safe haven. We seek our sanctuary, the place where we feel love, can find balance and recharge. Home is often that sanctuary that brings us peace. I hope you are able to keep yourself and others in as safe a harbor as we can manage in these troubled waters.

Diane Kalen-Sukra writes, “We” rather than “I” is the building block of community. This is the time when we must trust in ourselves and others. We enhance our care for one another by reaching out to connect in non-physical ways. We create spiritual community in new ways using zoom conferencing and livestreaming. We have recently purchased our own Zoom Conferencing License. Book it for your Committee, Board and Team meetings, film discussions, and other activities. It’s fun and easy. We’ll post login, password and instructions for using it in the Members section of the website.

I am writing this on March 15 and by the time you receive this message you will have experienced all the many efforts of church leaders to push past their own personal comfort zones to facilitate these connections. Continue to be patient in these times and extend your generosity and compassion widely and wisely.

Thank you to everyone who is stepping up to assist in whatever way you can. Thanks to our staff who are on the front line of many of the changes happening. Our new Office Administrator, Niki Mullin, started on February 24. She is learning the job just as COVID19 strikes our church community. She is operating in the midst of what might seem like a hurricane and we need to be discerning about what she is able to do and to support her in every way possible.

On a lighter note from a Facebook page...

BREAKING NEWS

GETTING OUTDOORS

NOT CANCELLED

FAMILY

NOT CANCELLED

READING

NOT CANCELLED

SINGING

NOT CANCELLED

LAUGHING

NOT CANCELLED

HOPE

NOT CANCELLED



EMPATHY BUDDIES

Meet your Empathy Buddy Team! We are here to listen after most Sunday services; you can find us at the front of the sanctuary or in the chaplain's room for a listening ear from a caring peer!

Learn more about our Empathy Buddies in future articles.

We need your input! Are you aware that we have an Empathy Buddy Program and would you use this if you needed a caring person to listen? Any suggestions you may have would be greatly appreciated so we can make the Empathy Buddy program match what is needed.

Please email Kressa Sisu with your ideas and suggestions: kristinasisu@gmail.com

RUTH HUMPHREYS INNOVATION FUND 2020

In memory of his late wife, Ruth, Ted Humphreys who passed away in October 2019 has very generously funded the Ruth Humphreys Innovation Fund. Annually the RHIF team accepts applications based on a number of criteria – a new and different method to existing program; scaling up a successful and innovative program and/or service; experiment with new ideas; collaborative approach to address an issue or opportunity.

This year's successful applicants are:

- Location Task Force to provide eight offsite services, September 2020 to April 2021 - \$5,040.00. Applicants Oliver Belisle and Marion Pape
- Caregiver Workshops - \$500. Applicant Barbara Boyle
- A/V Enhancement \$3,000. Applicants Gary Theal
- "Beloved Conversations: Canada" workshops \$3,700. Applicant Rev Melora

An application for an innovative, state of the art hearing loop was submitted by Gary Theal and Stu Whitney. The Grace Mersereau Fund trustees have agreed to fund this request of \$4,549 as it fits under Grace's criteria that her estate be used to enhance the sanctuary.

RHIF Team: Lynne Bonner, Betty Sherwood, Al Hoffman, John Tiffany, Lorna Anthony, Rev. Shana Lynngood



BC AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM FOUNDATION

This month's Share the Plate charity is BC Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation (BCAIRC). BCAIRC was founded in 1982 by a small group of farmers, teachers, and agriculture enthusiasts who had a passion for teaching about agriculture.

Our programs involve students and teachers -hands on - in growing gardens, tasting BC grown products, learning to cook and preserve the harvest and learning to appreciate farmers for their hard work and sustaining our land base.

BCAIRC understands that the best way to experience agriculture is to see it firsthand. That means meeting the farmer, walking inside the greenhouse - or the barn, and of course eating the delicious food that we produce in BC! Teachers from all over the province can participate in 2 day long professional development tours or a week long summer institute. Teacher feedback has been very positive, e.g. *"Engaging. What is better than chef demos, lunch, and field trips? Aside from being super fun, the content was really eye opening and has inspired me to change the way I shop, eat, and teach my students."*

We also work with thousands of volunteers and farmers and school/government partners to manage a major healthy schools' program, the BC School Fruit & Vegetable Nutritional Program, as well as other gardening, teaching and culinary arts programs. The Nutritional Program delivers BC fruits and vegetables to over 1,400 schools and results in children being more willing to try different types of produce. It also sometimes fills a "hunger gap." *"I have a few students in class who have challenges in the home, and come to school hungry. It was so nice to be able to offer blueberries...they were just so happy as they ate them."* -Osoyoos Secondary School. *"A few more children tried kiwi that have never tried it and they liked it. This program is a wonderful way to introduce new and a variety of fruits and vegetables. -Ntamtqen Snm'a? m'aya?tn*

Our programs and resources connect students in BC public, First Nations, and independent schools to agriculture and healthy eating. Through our programs, students learn about where their food comes from, how to grow their own food, and why farms and agriculture play such an important role in our communities and society.

Please give generously to this wonderful charity!

Visit www.bcairc.ca for more information about BC Agriculture in the Classroom activities.



Child Haven International Fundraiser Dinner

Please join us for a multicourse gourmet Indian meal prepared by

International Women's Catering Co-op

Entertainment includes Presentation & Bollywood

Date: Friday, May 1st, 2020

Time:

Child Haven Dinner Postponed

The Child Haven dinner planned for May 1, 2020 has been postponed because of the Coronavirus (Covid-19) situation.

We expect that it will now be held in June (or possibly August), depending on how the virus evolves. Announcements to follow in a future FUCV newsletter and/or e-Weekly.

(507) 592-8016

Net proceeds will be donated to Child Haven International

www.childhaven.ca



SPIRITED JAZZ

Unitarian Jazz Vespers

Enjoy jazz with a splash of spiritual inspiration
by Reverend Shana.

Fifth Street Quintet

Roster: Natasha Penfield, Jilaine Orton, Ryan Narciso,
Kenji Lee and Taylor Caswell



Theme: Harmony

April 26th, Sunday, 7 - 8 PM First Unitarian Church of Victoria By donation and greatly appreciated

Outstanding!!! This new addition to Victoria's music scene shows how a cappella perfect 5-part harmony, percussive accents and infectious swing can define jazz in the traditions of Manhattan Transfer, Pentatonix and Lambert Hendrix and Ross.

Fifth Street is a vocal quintet based in Victoria, BC. Its five members – Natasha Penfield, Jilaine Orton, Ryan Narciso, Kenji Lee and Taylor Caswell – met at the University of Victoria's School of Music and formed the group out of a desire to make music together and continue growing as artists. Inspired by a capella powerhouses such as Pentatonix, The Real Group and M-Pact, Fifth Street combines the worlds of pop, jazz and R&B in five-part harmony.

Natasha Penfield's vocal versatility is thanks to her passion across musical genres - as well as her years of study in musical theatre, classical, and contemporary music. A soprano, with high notes described as "ethereal", she rounds off the top harmonies in Fifth Street.

Both a professional vocalist and music educator, Jilaine Orton's alto voice brings a unique warmth to Fifth Street's sound. She spearheads the quintet's educational clinics, where her expertise as a performer and teacher shines as an invaluable asset to the ensemble.

Ryan Narciso is a singer, arranger, and multi-instrumentalist whose Youtube cover songs have garnered millions of views. Having performed around the world with award-winning musicians such as Tori Kelly and Jed Madela, he now lends his talents to Fifth Street as the quintet's tenor.

In addition to performing as Fifth Street's beatboxer, Kenji Lee also frequently sings with the quintet as a baritone and bass. Kenji is a prolific arranger who finds inspiration in fusing current popular music with both jazz and electronic dance.

Trained as a vocalist, pianist and bassist from childhood, Taylor Caswell was influenced by a variety of musical styles including pop, jazz, and musical theatre. He now sings as Fifth Street's bass while occasionally arranging for the group.

Enjoy jazz with a splash of spiritual inspiration in venues with exquisite sound and setting. These hour-long evening services are a unique blend of jazz and spirituality. Each service brings together live music from popular local jazz musicians, a brief meaningful message, and a little of the history of the music performed.

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

<https://victoriaunitarian.ca/worship-services/spirited-jazz-vespers/>



Greater Victoria Acting Together

For two decades, homeless people, many with mental health issues, have been living on Victoria's streets, on Harris Green, or in parks, or sometimes in shelters like Our Place. Various organizations have tried to get governments to help the homeless, but without success.

Then, in the spring of 2015, Peggy Wilmot, chair-person of Faith in Action, a small multi-faith group that had been battling homelessness for 20 years, learned of an organization in Vancouver called Metro Vancouver Alliance. Its modus operandi: if single groups can't get local and provincial governments to solve a problem, form a huge organizations of many groups and use weight of numbers to pressure those with power to act. Member organizations can include faith groups, unions, service clubs, and more.

Faith in Action got behind Peggy and in 2017 "Greater Victoria Acting Together" (GVAT) was born. Reverend Melora was keen our church become a member, and we joined in 2018. Now, in 2020, GVAT has 30 member organizations representing 60,000 people!

In November, 2018, at a meeting of GVAT members, our congregation voted to support actions on Housing the homeless, on improving care for those with Mental Health and Addictions, and on Climate Change.

Those are three huge problems! They require study and planning before effective actions can be identified. After more than a year, Housing and Mental-Health "Action Research Teams" have recommendations for action ready for the Founding Assembly.

Then along came the Covid-19 virus, and all plans went out the window!

The Founding Assembly will now probably occur in September-October, after the summer. GVAT still wants 400 people from its 30 member organizations present to witness those in power confirm the agreements they will have made to act!

Our Church has been asked to have at least 30 people from our congregation present at the Founding Assembly. Thank you, those of you who have already indicated your interest in attending the Assembly. We will be contacting you again a month or so before the new date for the event. And those of you who haven't yet signed up—you'll get another chance! Stay tuned!

Your GVAT core team: Susan Layng, Hanny Pannekoek, Kym Hines, Philip Symons & ex officio, Marion Pape.

The President and Councils of the Board are asked to nominate volunteers who have made significant contributions to the life of the church and Unitarian community. Anna Isaacs has been nominated by Nancy Dobbs, chair of the Spiritual Development Council. She will be recognized at the April 26th Service.



Anna grew up unchurched in a little mill town in central BC before moving to Victoria for university in 1997. She was looking for spiritual community in her mid 20s and started attending Capital UU downtown in part because she didn't have a car. "Our faith has helped me weather tough stuff like deaths and the end of important relationships and jobs, as well as caring for loved ones when they struggle and suffer." She first became involved at FUCV by serving on the committee for the ministerial student that the two congregations shared. She remains a dual citizen of both Victoria congregations.

Her paid gig for the last dozen years is front line care work with adults with developmental disabilities. She is bonus mom of an eight-year-old stepdaughter on weekends and half holidays, and auntie to a rambunctious gaggle of kids in her chosen (and traditional) family. "I recently had the nerve-wracking joy of being the centre of attention and welcoming my family, friends and UU community to my wedding in our church sanctuary. My spouse isn't a church or morning person, so it's one of the few times I've managed to get him to church with me."

Anna's involvement in UU community so far has included helping with kids, youth, young adults, intergenerational, workshops, worship, sermons, retreats, rentals, reconciliation, boards, nominating, conferences, admin, social media, music, databases, pride, camps, outreach, finance, dialogues, and dance parties. "UU community is a place I indulge the short attention span of my curious mind, my oldest sibling bossy organizer tendencies, and my creative itch to try out new things and try old things in different ways."

"I really want to sing the praises of those parenting at church and those at church who love and help families with kids. It's been a really eye opening and humbling experience becoming an instant parent. Getting out the door early enough to get to church to then help our kids feel safe and at home navigating our loud, busy, crowded space is both worth it and really hard work. Inclusion and practical support from the village on days when things aren't going smoothly makes it possible for me to be able to continue to come to church, continue to volunteer, continue participate, and continue to enjoy church when I'm parenting. I need that help and I thank you. "

Continued on the next page...

Dar Levy said:

I got to know Anna when we experienced a conflicted of opinion, and she took it upon herself to set things right. And then later, when I needed a friend, what I had seen of her told me that she'd be someone who I could count on, and she was, and still is.

Since then, I don't think I've seen a day go by when Anna's not been doing something for a friend, a family member, or our church community, either by stepping up and taking the responsibility fully onto her shoulders to get it done, or behind the scenes helping wherever it's needed. Her commitment to the people in her life is steadfast and true, and I count myself lucky to have her in my church community and as a friend.

It was an honour to write this. Dar

Oliver Belisle said:

Anna Isaacs is one of the first people I met when I started attending church with my family a few years ago. At the time, she was heavily involved with the children's programming. Her presence became for me a reassuring constant in the ever-shifting sea of unfamiliar faces, there each Sunday when I dropped the kids off for their respective programs. I later learned that this dedication was not reserved for the youth. When I became a worship associate, I found, to my surprise, that Anna was here, too. During my time working directly with Anna, I got to see how hard she works, how willing she is to pick up extra tasks or give folks rides to meetings, church, or wherever they need to be, how calm and patient she is (even amidst stressful circumstances). Add to this Anna's past and ongoing involvement with the Capital Congregation in James Bay and it's clear that she is a pillar of the UU community here on southern Vancouver Island. I'm sure that I'm only scratching the surface of all that Anna has done and continues to do for us. Put simply, we are blessed to have such a person in our midst!

Ollie



SONG CIRCLE

New Time! In the Sanctuary: 2:00pm - 3:00pm

(We're hoping to beat heavenly harmonies)

Song Circle - Everyone is welcome (and we're looking for new members too!)

Next time: June 19th, 2:00pm

June 22, June 19.

CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Join us for song and joy...familiar, new, folk, world songs, lighthearted, chants. Jewel will also lead a (optional participation) sacred dance.



All members, friends and newcomers to the church are invited to be part of the Neighbourhood Group where they live. Groups meet with different frequency for social activities, organizing one Souper Sunday per year and making goodies for Sunday coffee one month per year. The Care and Concern contact for each NG keeps tabs on members who may need extra assistance.

If you don't know which group you are in, please phone the church office. The NG conveners are:

- ◆ Oak Bay: John "Tiff" Tiffany 778-432-0881
- ◆ James Bay: Convener Lynn Hunter 250-220-2240
- ◆ Gordon Head: Convener Mary Cramer 250-477-1615
- ◆ Western: Convener Susan Lean 250 478-5261
- ◆ Nearby: Convener Nancy Dobbs 250-652-5438
- ◆ Cadboro Bay: Convener Val Roberts 250-477-7192
- ◆ Royal Oak West: Convener Martha McDougall 250-477-1541
- ◆ Royal Oak East: Convener Hanny Pannekoek & Hugo Sutmoller 250-385-2299
- ◆ Grand Central: Convener Jane Wilson 250-598-4348
- ◆ Fairfield: Convener Lynn Beak 250-598-3584
- ◆ Far Out (Sidney/North Saanich): Convener Phyllis Aherne 250-655-7149
- ◆ Esquimalt: Convener Maureen Sherlock 250-384-6492

Lorna Anthony

Coordinator, Neighbourhood Groups

We hope everyone is staying well.

Let's take care of each other during these difficult times.

Reach out to your neighbourhood group if you need help or can offer help.

We are better together.

An Update from Rev. David Dubbeldam...

Lynn sent me an email saying many of you have been asking about me and suggesting I send an update, which was a great suggestion so here goes. After my ordination in April, (almost a year ago!) I began actively looking for a job and at the end of July I accepted a full-time hospice chaplain position with a really great hospice provider here in Philadelphia: Seasons Hospice & Palliative Care of Pennsylvania.

My job entails visiting those nearing the end of their lives in their homes, nursing homes, long term care facilities, hospitals and our own 15-bed inpatient center. During these visits, I spend time with those who are dying as well as their family members and their friends. My job is mostly just to listen. I listen to people's fears, hopes, dreams, regrets, and every other emotion you can name and help them to process those emotions by exploring what they are going through their own life experiences, values and faith perspectives. Often, it takes the approach of death for many of us to reflect on the meaning and purpose of our lives and I get brought into that reflection and am blessed by it. For many, talking about death has become more taboo than talking about sex so they arrive at this time without knowledge of what will happen or how to cope with what is happening so another significant part of my job is educating, reassuring, and normalizing what they are experiencing, which for them is not normal. It is deeply rewarding work.

Through my work I am exposed to a great deal of suffering including physical, emotional and spiritual. A significant way I cope with the suffering I am exposed to is by looking for the meaning in another's suffering. Grief, for instance, is often a reflection of the value and meaning of the human connections we share. The grief itself is ugly and painful for those who are experiencing it, but what represents is beautiful. There are times, however, that the suffering I witness is horrific and meaningless. I cope with such circumstances by recognizing and acknowledging that what I do, even if just being an active witness to that suffering, makes a difference. I am really privileged to be able to do this ministry and am deeply grateful to you for making this possible by co-ordaining me.

Best, Rev. David

PS, if you missed the ordination, it is still available to view on Restoration's website:

Part 1 - Organ Prelude: http://uucr.sermon.net/Sunday_Service/sundayservice/21370658

Part 2 - Welcome to Homily: http://uucr.sermon.net/Sunday_Service/sundayservice/21370649

Part 3 - Offering to Postlude http://uucr.sermon.net/Sunday_Service/sundayservice/21366048



In memory of Alastair Roy Mont, who died unexpectedly and peacefully on March 10, 2020.

Born on January 7, 1932 in New Brunswick to a Scottish mother and a Canadian father.

His varied career brought him to Edmonton and Lethbridge ending in Victoria in 1974, where he worked as a social worker with BC Social Services and later with the BC Ministry of Health.

Alastair married Audrey in 1961 (divorced in 1980). They have two sons, Rod and Douglas. Rod, a lawyer, lives in Nanaimo with his wife Jill. Douglas has been living in Fukuoka, Japan, for many years, is married to Hiroe, and teaches English. Alastair felt very blessed with his family.

He was an active member of both the First Unitarian Church of Victoria and Capital. Some of his formal involvements were with the Board of the Pacific Northwest Regional District of the Unitarian Universalists Association and the Vancouver Island Unitarian Council. He was most effective in his role of supporting and strengthening the smaller UUA congregations. His love of many years is Jeannie Corsi with whom he shared companionship, appreciation of music and Unitarian values.

Those who know him value his ability to connect in an affirming way, his broad interests and strong sense of social justice. He wrote thoughtful poetry, enjoyed reading and discussions, and played tennis and badminton for many years. He loved his cat and watching the birds in the feeder by his window.

His son Rod wrote:

“I am very thankful for my dad’s support and love. He thoroughly enjoyed hearing about what my brother and I were doing and made a point of coming to many musical and music theatre performances that I was involved with over the years. One of his joys and strengths was learning about the people he met and connecting people. I know that he valued relationships a lot and really enjoyed the social, emotional, spiritual and intellectual connections that he had with Unitarians”.

in friendship and love,
hanny pannekoek

First Unitarian Church of Victoria

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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

Niki Mullin

Communications Assistant

Shannon Oatway
communications@victoriaunitarian.ca

Officers

President	Marion Pape
Vice President	Steve Sharlow
Treasurer	Kathleen Zimmerman
Secretary	Audrey Taylor

Board Members

Trustee	Bruce Nicol
Trustee	Nancy Dobbs
Trustee	Susan Layng
Trustee	John Tiffany
Trustee	Jim Willis

Do you have a friend in need ... of a ceremony?
A wedding, child dedication or memorial?

Tell them about FUCV's

Lay Chaplains

It's what we do!

Email: laychaplains@victoriaunitarian.ca



We Care!

Care and Concern Committee

for hospital and home visits, or just to talk...

Barbara Boyle at 250-381-0264

or your Neighbourhood Group Care & Concern person

CALENDAR:

[CLICK HERE](#)

Board Members on Duty in April

5	Susan Layng
12	John Tiffany
19	Jim Willis
26	Marion Pape

Contact Changes

None to report

BIRTHDAYS IN APRIL

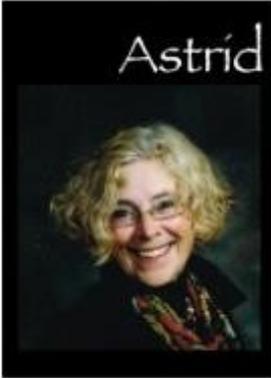


Robert English	April 01
Ross Beauchamp	April 02
Sarah Kendall	April 02
Earle Anthony	April 05
Barbara Kovar	April 06
Martha McDougall	April 09
Desmond de Schepper	April 13
Maureen Sherlock	April 13
Catherine Haynes	April 14
Jan Thomson	April 14
Mike Fibiger-Crossman	April 16
Isabelle Grenon	April 16
Suzanne Beauchamp	April 17
Suzanne Clement Thorne	April 19
Nille Fibiger-Crossman	April 19
Kathleen Doerksen	April 20
Barbara Nyland	April 21
Luke Walrafen	April 21
Barbara Boyle	April 24
Catherine Cardinal	April 24
Chris Cook	April 25
Leslie O'Hagan	April 25
LeAnn Andersen	April 28
Erin Kinrade	April 30

Membership Changes

Beth Woodland, Visitor to Member

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Astrid Firley-Eaton
Design

interior design
colour consultation

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



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For those without email, copy may be left at the church
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