



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

**SERVICES IN JUNE**

**SUNDAY SERVICES BEGIN AT 10:30 am**

**DATE AND TIME: June 7: 10:30 AM**

**TITLE: Embracing Self and Others**

**HOMILIST: Rev Shana**

**WA: David Vest**

As we begin our exploration of compassion, we look to the link between our compassion for ourselves and toward others. How much do I extend grace and care toward my shortcomings and weaknesses? If I am able to appreciate my own struggles, how much more am I able to empathize and hold others in compassion? This morning we'll explore how wide our embrace can be, and how the encouragement we have been offered during the pandemic to "be kind" includes our own being.



What does it mean to be a people of  
**Compassion?**

**DATE AND TIME: June 14: 10:30 AM**

**HOMILIST: Gitanjali John Lyam**

**TITLE: The lotus – My life in 2 cultures**

**WA: Victoria Barr**

The symbol of the lotus is found all over India. In art, fashion, architecture, religion and spirituality. It is India's national flower. My mother Padma, and daughter Mrnalini, are named after it. I ponder what it means to me and how it has helped me navigate life in two cultures.

**DATE AND TIME: June 21: 10:30 AM**

**HOMILIST: Rev Melora/Arran Liddel**

**TITLE: Service of Transition for All Ages**

**WA: Kressa Sisu**

What has this past year been like for you? What changes have you been through? What losses have you experienced? What new life, new creations, new ventures have come into being? This year's annual transition service will honor the full range of life's transitions, with extra care given to the drastic changes in these past few months. We will do so with an eye to this month's theme of "Compassion."

**Please bring to this service an object that brings you comfort, ready to share on screen.**

**DATE AND TIME: June 28: 10:30 AM**

**SPEAKERS: Rev Shana**

**TITLE: Proud of Who We Are**

**WA: Lynne Bonner**

This Pride Sunday, we will look at what pride looks like for all of us, both those in the GLBTQI+ community and those who are not. Pride was, after all, considered one of the seven deadly sins. How can it be a virtue? When we are proud of who we are (all of who we are) how does that change how we move through the world? How much does shame get in the way of us living out our fullness?

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](#).



**Zoom Sing - Everyone Welcome...**

**Nancy Dobbs, Jewel Spooner**

**Friday afternoons from 3 to 4pm**

Informal, relaxed, campfire vibe with words provided. With Zoom only one singer can be heard at a time ...practice harmony in the privacy of your home. Tech and moral support provided by Bernhard Spalteholz. Email Nancy Dobbs [nandobbs@telus.net](mailto:nandobbs@telus.net) for the Zoom link.

### **New FUCV Cheque Processing Procedure and Timelines**

We have hired a new bookkeeping service, Canwest Accounting Ltd., to manage the FUCV books. Canwest will pick up our bookkeeping documents (including cheque requisitions) on Mondays, and will return them to us (including processed cheques) on Thursdays. We plan to have cheques signed and available for distribution around noon on Sundays (which would normally be after services).

If you have a cheque requisition, it must be submitted by Sunday noon, so that the Treasurer can authorize it before it is sent to the bookkeeper. **Please ensure that it is completely filled out, with all required signatures and receipts.** If you cannot obtain a signature on the form because of physical distancing, the person providing the signature can email their approval to the Treasurer. If a submitted cheque requisition form is incomplete, there will be a delay in processing it. If you are not able to submit a hard copy, please email a scanned copy of the cheque requisition and receipts to [treasurer@victoriaunitarian.ca](mailto:treasurer@victoriaunitarian.ca). If you need an electronic copy of the cheque requisition form, please email the Treasurer at that same email address.

Please keep in mind that the bookkeeper is new to us, and does not know our financial history or previous expenses. Please also keep in mind that Niki is only part-time, and that unless it is an administrative/office expense (e.g. the hydro bill, office supplies), it is not her job to complete cheque requisitions.

Thanks to everyone for your support and cooperation!

Kathleen Zimmerman, FUCV Treasurer

### **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? (when it opens again, of course...)**

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

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

### 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!



### Social Justice Story Time - All Welcome

Monday - Saturday Mornings at 8.30 am (approx 15 mins)

Routine and connection are vital in these uncertain times. With that in mind, we are offering a daily ‘Time For All Ages’ where all UU’ers, from newborns to the elderly and everyone in between can light a chalice, breathe, and enjoy a social justice themed picture book.

***Note: Our little ones have been missing their church ‘grandparents, aunts and uncles’, if you are awake at 8.30 am please consider dropping by any day for a wonderful start to the day.***

***PJs and breakfast welcome!***

**Social Justice Story Time** Monday - Saturday Mornings at 8.30 am (approx 15 mins)

Nancy Dobbs

***Our little ones have been missing their church 'grandparents, aunts and uncles', if you are awake at 8.30 am please consider dropping by any day for a wonderful start to the day. PJs and breakfast welcome!***



I had been missing “our little ones” and was curious about this “wonderful start to the day”. The eweekly invitation was very welcoming so I gave it a try. Now I am a fan. I have seen an exotic pet bug, learned about very colorful kinetic sand, joined the countdown for a 5<sup>th</sup> birthday, and waited for news of baby Ferguson’s birth.



The surprise to me was how much I enjoyed the stories. I listened to an older kid read about a child with ADHD. In another story, there was a monster that grew every time the boy felt ashamed. The adults might have related to that story more than the children. There were books about gender, the ABCs of equality and the indigenous story “Stolen Words”, made me cry. I wish I had had these books when my children were growing up. Now I can buy them and share them with my grandchildren. There is a list of stories that have been read on the church website.

Physical distancing has kept us apart, but it has also given us unique opportunities to connect.

I wanted to invite my Toronto grandchildren to Social Justice Story Time, but they have online school at that hour. However, you can invite your grandchildren. Or come to get to know the children in our own church community. Thank you to Lindsay Herriot for creating this “wonderful start to the day”. Lindsay and some other families in our congregation have been offering Social Justice Story Time Monday through Saturday at 8:30 in the morning. I am happy to share that the story time will be continuing this summer and Arran will invite children from nearby Unitarian congregations.



Join us on Zoom anytime: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/920571708?>



## Life Laughs at Those Who Make Plans

By now, you will have received your AGM packages by email or Canada Post for the FUCV and the FUCV Foundation Virtual Annual General Meetings. If you did not receive your package, please contact [churchoffice@victoriaunitarian.ca](mailto:churchoffice@victoriaunitarian.ca) or at (250) 744-2665. Both meetings will be held on June 21<sup>st</sup> with the Zoom Meeting Room open at 11:30 for people to check-in and get settled. The Zoom FUCV AGM will begin at 11:45 or once a quorum of 40 participants are present. The FUCV Foundation AGM will immediately follow the first meeting. Please register for the AGM's online or by phoning the office as soon as you receive your Zoom links.

On June 7 and June 14 after Sunday Service, our virtual planning team will hold two preliminary meetings for training on Zoom, particularly the voting process, and orientation to the AGM. Because of the severe loss of revenue that FUCV has experienced as a result of COVID 19 closures, the Congregation will be asked to approve a withdrawal from the Endowment Fund to cover projected deficits. You will likely understand how difficult it is to estimate what will happen with the global pandemic over the next 6 months. If projected deficits are not realized, we will withdraw only what is required. You will also be voting for the FUCV Board of Directors and the FUCV Foundation Board among other things.

'What is next for FUCV?' is the question the Board is now asking. Just as in March when we launched Board teams to determine a clear direction to respond to the immediate realities of closing down church activities, we are now being challenged with the more difficult planning for opening up again both slowly and safely. A new team is being established to develop protocols for resuming church activities and according to Provincial Guidelines. The planning will be tentative and based on accumulated information. Well-laid plans will often need to be changed almost as soon as they are announced and even more so under the scenario of COVID.

Thanks to everyone who has been contributing their creativity, hard work and courage as we have moved forward since March. Rather than a short two months, it seems like a year of anxiety, hard slogging, going beyond our limits and thriving.

Perhaps the change we are called upon to make has just begun. Perhaps we will be changed forever! May it be for the greater good of all beings.

Blessings for you individually, for your families and friends and for our beloved community.



# Online

A U C T I O N

## CALENDAR

DATE	ITEMS FOR SALE
<b>MONDAY</b> <b>JUNE 8</b> 8am to 8pm	<b>GIFT CERTIFICATES</b>
<b>TUESDAY</b> <b>JUNE 9</b> 8am to 8pm	<b>TREAT SHOP</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> <b>JUNE 10</b> 8am to 8pm	<b>FOOD TO GO OR STAY, PRO SHOP, GETAWAYS</b>
<b>THURSDAY</b> <b>JUNE 11</b> 8am to 8pm	<b>GIFT SHOP</b>

## How Does an Online Auction Work?

The auction will start Monday, June 8 and continue every day until Thursday, June 11.

Auction offers are organized into shops. Each shop is open for only one day. Bidding opens at 8:00 a.m. and closes at 8:00 p.m.

To bid, simply enter your name and bid offer and it will be there. No need to save. Consider your bids carefully. After the administrator locks a bid, it can't be changed or deleted.

Some offers have one winner and some have several winners. If the offer says "One each to the three highest bids" the three people with the highest bids will win. They will pay the amount they bid, even if the amounts are different.

Some offers have fixed prices. If there are 8 jars of jam at \$5 each, there will be 8 spaces on the bid sheet. The first 8 names on the bid sheet win. The bid sheet will say SOLD OUT when all 8 spaces are filled.

If you are bidding on the Italian Feast, with a set price per person and you want dinner for two, make sure you fill in two spaces.

If a dinner is **up for bids** and there are 6 spaces, if you want 2 dinners, make sure you have 2 of the highest 6 bids. You might actually pay different amounts for the 2 dinners, but your bids have to be among the 6 highest.

You will receive a message the night before a shop opens and the same message the next morning, giving you the link for the shop that day. If you have questions or have trouble opening the link, please contact **Jen Young** at [uujenyoung@gmail.com](mailto:uujenyoung@gmail.com) or 250-888-4746 and we will have someone help you.

If you don't have a computer or are uncomfortable bidding online, you could print out the list and ask a friend to bid for you. You could also contact Suellen at [sguenther@shaw.ca](mailto:sguenther@shaw.ca) or 250-727-0454 and we will assign a personal shopper for you.

When the auction is over, we will notify you by email or phone, giving you an invoice listing the items you have won and the amount you owe the church.

There are two ways to pay your invoice. Use the donate button on the church website: [www.victoriaunitarian.ca](http://www.victoriaunitarian.ca). Or write a cheque and send it to: : First Unitarian Church of Victoria, 5575 West Saanich Road, Victoria, V9E 2G1. **Make sure to designate your payment as an auction payment.** Payments made for auction items are **not** eligible for a tax receipt.

# How to Bid



## **F6: Lunch or Supper for**

**Four:** Mulligatawny Soup, Hearty Bread, and Apple Crisp. Offer includes delivery. Made by Lorna Anthony.

Starting bid: \$30.

<b>NAME</b>	<b>BID</b>
1. Mark Twain	\$30
2. Mary Shelley	\$40
3. Jane Austen	\$45
4. Mark Twain	\$50
5. Walt Whitman	\$55
<b>6. Jane Austen WINNER AT 8PM</b>	<b>\$60</b>
7.	
8.	
9.	
10.	

# watch your inbox on June 3 for the complete auction list.

**If you don't have a computer, ask a friend to print the list for you.**

**Here's the auction list by newsletter deadline.**

## GIFT CERTIFICATES

**GC1: Peppers Foods.** \$25 gift card. Located in Cadboro Bay. Starting bid: \$20

**GC2: Save-On-Foods.** \$25 gift certificate for Save-On Foods in University Heights. Starting bid: \$20

**GC3: Boston Pizza.** Three \$50 gift cards. One each to the three highest bids. Donated by Jim Hemstock and Nancy Gray Hemstock. Starting bid: \$40.

**GC4: Keating Coffee.** \$100 gift certificate Keating Coffee, 2126B Keating Cross Road, Saanichton BC. Donated by Mollie Twidale. Starting bid: \$50

**GC5: Russell Books:** Two \$25 gift cards for Russell Books at 747 Fort St. Starting bid \$20. One each to the two highest bids. Donated by Suellen Guenther.

**GC6: Imagine Studio Cafe:** Two \$25 gift certificates to Imagine Studio Cafe. One each to the two highest bids. Starting bid \$20. Donated by Roberta Clair.

**GC7: The Butchart Gardens** now open: Three pairs of tickets for one-time complimentary admission to The Butchart Gardens -- although they never expire, limitations apply. Following the provincial health office rules, The Butchart Gardens is once again open to the public encouraging you to take solace in its floral beauty. During these uncertain times, to avoid disappointment and make the most of your visit please visit the website ([www.butchartgardens.com](http://www.butchartgardens.com)) or call 250.652.4422 prior to arrival to confirm pandemic protocol and available services. One pair of tickets to each of the three highest bidders. Tickets provided by long-time employees Bradley and Madelaine Clarke. Starting bid: \$35 per pair.

**GC8: The Papery:** \$25 gift card for The Papery, 669 Fort St. Great place for cards, wrapping paper, jigsaw puzzles, and gifts. Donated by Suellen Guenther. Starting bid: \$20

**GC9: Garden Works:** Two \$75 gift certificates for Garden Works. Donated by Audrey Taylor. Starting bid: \$55. One each to the two highest bids.

**GC10: Pets West:** A \$50 gift certificate to Pets West in Broadmead Village, donated by Lisa and Mike Greenly. Starting bid \$40.

**GC11: Tanner's Bookstore:** A \$50 gift certificate to Tanner's Bookstore in Sidney donated by Lisa and Mike Greenly. Starting bid \$40.

**GC12: Red Barn for all 3 locations:** A \$50 gift certificate redeemable at any of the three locations donated by Lisa and Mike Greenly. Starting bid \$40

**GC13: Baan Thai Wok and Bar for all 3 locations:** A \$50 gift certificate redeemable at any of the three locations donated by Lisa and Mike Greenly. Starting bid \$40

**GC14: The Girls Next Door Hair Studio: Two \$100 gift cards for** The Girls Next Door Hair Studio, 350 Marigold. Donor is really happy with the hairdresser's cuts and highlights at reasonable rates so highly recommends Sherry Henry, a local, hardworking business owner. Open in Victoria on Thursdays and Fridays. One each to the two highest bids. Donated by Kathy Vinton. Starting Bid: \$30

**GC15: Blenkinsop Valley Mini-Golf:** Complimentary Passes for 2 adults and 2 youth. Value - \$25 Donated by Earle and Lorna Anthony.

**GC16: Wild Birds Unlimited Nature Shop:** (Shelbourne Plaza) Value - \$25 Donated by Earle and Lorna Anthony. Opening Bid: \$20

**GC17: Fairway Market:** Value - \$25 Donated by Earle and Lorna Anthony.

**GC18: Wildwood Garden Center:** (Elk Lake Drive) Value - \$25 Donated by Earle and Lorna Anthony.

*Continued on next page...*

- GC19: Soap Exchange:** Gift certificate for \$25 Donated by Mary Cramer
- GC20: Ivy's Bookshop:** in the Oak Bay Village: \$35 gift card. Starting bid \$25. Donated by Kristina Stevens.
- GC21: \$75 Gift Card for Royal Spice Indian Food Restaurant** on Cloverdale Avenue. Starting Bid: \$50. Donated by Jan Thomson.
- GC22: Barb's Fish and Chips:** Two \$50 gift cards, donated by Susan Layng and Pete Grove. One each to the two highest bids. Starting bid: \$35.
- GC23: The Roost Farm Bakery and Garden Centre:** \$50 gift card. Donated by Shelagh McCormick. Starting bid: \$35
- GC24: Lifestyle Markets:** \$50 Gift Card for Lifestyle Markets at three locations: 2950 Douglas St, 343 Cook St and 9769 Fifth St in Sidney. Social distancing is in place. Donated by Kathy Vinton. Starting bid: \$35.
- GC25: Flying Fish Winery,** 6782 Veyaness Rd: \$80 gift card. Starting bid \$40. Donated by Nancy Dobbs and Flying Fish Winery.
- GC26: Hair Flair,**102-7135 West Saanich Rd: \$40 gift card. Starting bid \$25. Donated by Nancy Dobbs.
- GC27: Adriana's The Whole Enchilada,** 2140 Keating Cross Road. \$25 gift card. Starting bid: \$20. Donated by Nancy Dobbs.
- GC28: Beuregard Café and Provisions,**1191 Verdier Ave. \$25 gift card. Starting bid: \$20. Donated by Nancy Dobbs.
- GC29: Brentwood Emporium,**12-7103 West Saanich Rd. \$25 gift card. Starting bid: \$20. Donated by Nancy Dobbs.
- GC30: Sassy's Family Restaurant,** 6719 West Saanich Rd. \$25 gift card. Starting bid: \$20. Donated by Nancy Dobbs.
- GC31: Zanzibar Cafe,** 1164 Stelly's Cross Rd. \$25 gift card. Starting bid: \$20. Donated by Nancy Dobbs.
- GC32: Bolen Books:** Two \$25 gift certificates. One each to the two highest bids. Donated by Lorna and Earle Anthony. Starting bid: \$20.
- GC33: The Market on Yates or Millstream:** \$20 gift card, donated by Jim Willis & Glenyss Turner. Starting bid: \$15.

#### **FOOD TO GO or STAY**

**F1: FOUR Course Provencal Dinner** featuring Bouillabaisse and many great French country foods; chef Liz Graham and sommelier Mike Graham offer appetizers, salad, bouillabaisse, baguette, lemon tarts and a bottle of wine (choice of red or white) all ready to heat/chill (instructions provided) and enjoy. This will be packaged in 4 lots of dinner for two people and will be ready for pick-up on Sat. June 20 between 4pm and 5pm at their James Bay home. Starting Bid: \$80 (to serve two) . ***BON APPETIT, mes amis!***

**F2: Authentic Chinese Food.** Six lucky people will have the unique opportunity to enjoy a meal of homemade Chinese soup and dumplings, both savoury and sweet on Saturday, October 24. Tiff says he never orders dumplings in a Chinese restaurant because Jany's are so much better! Your meal will be packaged, available for pick-up and ready to warm up between 4:00pm and 5:00pm at their home in Oak Bay. Social distancing will be observed if still in effect. If not, the PARTY IS ON at 6:00pm *chez Tiff*. Offered by Jan-li and Tiff. Starting Bid: \$60 per person. One meal each for the 6 highest bids

**F3: Beer, Bocce and Bounty of the Sea:** Offered 2 times on Sat, July 4, for four players at lunch from 12:00pm-3:00pm and then another 4 guests for dinner from 3:30pm-6:30pm with social distancing in place. Each bocce guest will play solo with 1 designated ball and not on a team to limit contact. Menu: fresh halibut or wild salmon with wine or beer, rice, variety of salads and delicious dessert. Offered by Frances and Peter Hancock, Shirley Travis and Chris Cook. Starting bid \$45.

**F4: Four-Course Italian Feast for 12:** Jen Young will prepare a dazzling meal to eat in or take out on Saturday July 25. Begin with Artichoke, Spinach and Prosciutto Flatbread drizzled with spiced honey. Follow with a classic Italian chopped salad. Enjoy an entree that features Italian sausage and fettuccine (both homemade) tossed in a delicately flavoured olive oil. End your journey with a Mascarpone Cream tart decorated with fresh fruit. Come and enjoy the meal on our decks at a safe social distance at 6pm OR we will package your meal and have it available for curbside pick-up at 5:30pm on the same day. \$60 per person.

**F5: Portable Picnic for Two:** 500 ml tub of dill pickle potato salad, 8 chicken wingettes, 2 deviled eggs (4 halves), veggies, 4 cookies by Jen. For your patio, balcony or a park with friends. Pick up July 29 10:00 - 12:00. 10 picnics, \$30 each. Offered by Suellen Guenther & Jen Young.

**F6: Eight Borscht Lunches for Two:** Jen Young will prepare a litre of authentic Doukhobour Borscht (vegetarian), 4 homemade feather-light dinner rolls and 6 of her famous oatmeal chocolate chip cookies. Everything freshly prepared and available for pick-up at our home in High Quadra on Sunday June 28 between Noon and 2pm. \$30 per lunch for two.

*Continued on next page...*

**F7: Lunch or Supper for Four:** Mulligatawny Soup, Hearty Bread, and Apple Crisp. Offer includes delivery. Made by Lorna Anthony. Starting bid: \$30.

**F8: Four Course Deluxe Vegetarian Dinner:** In Tuscany, flavourful cannelloni beans transform a comfort meal into something special with lots of vegetables, including home-grown kale. Dinner for two includes Tuscan Stew, Sourdough Pinchoffs (fermented sourdough has wonderful health benefits), salad, rhubarb squares made from the church garden, and custom-made red or white wine. Pickup on Friday, June 26 from 4:00-5:00. Offered by Marion Pape and John Worton. Eight dinners for two. \$60 per dinner for two.

**F9: Fresh Produce.** We will deliver a bag of fresh produce from our garden this summer. Offered by Jim Hemstock and Nancy Gray Hemstock. Starting bid: \$15.

**F10: Pulled Pork Dinner with Homemade Ice Cream:** Dinner in our garden for 6 featuring pulled pork sandwiches with coleslaw, baked beans and potato salad. Dessert will include homemade ice cream with a variety of toppings. Social distancing guidelines will be followed. Date: Saturday, June 27th at 4pm. Hosted by Pat Conroy and Mary Cramer. Starting bid: \$40.

#### **GETAWAYS**

**GW1: Owl's Perch Treehouse:** Relax in trees! One night luxury accommodation in this unique treehouse attached to three large cedars and one giant maple. Lots of stairs. Loft bedroom with a double bed, accessible by a ladder. Three piece bathroom, kitchenette, living room with loveseat, dining table, fireplace, and Netflix. Picture window and a large private deck. Located five minutes from Sooke. Offer includes a bottle of champagne. \$261 value. Offered by the Petronis family. Starting bid: \$100

**GW2: A 3 Day and Night Weekend in beautiful Victoria in a waterfront home.** Imagine yourself sitting in a sea-side garden in a convenient weekend in April, 2021. Owner will be in Vancouver. The birds are singing, flowers are bursting into bloom in a half acre garden with a pond. On the deck, the sun warms you as you look out over the ocean with the Olympics at its southern edge. Or you wander down to the beach to watch otters and eagles and skip stones into the water in a secluded bay. Available for 2 adults in a guest bedroom with a king-sized bed that may be made up into 2 single beds. Spacious kitchen with microwave, stove, dishwasher and a large living room with TV. What a lovely gift for a couple from the mainland or up-island or just a treat for yourself! Value: \$550. Starting bid: \$300. Donated by Betty Sherwood.

**GW3: Edmonton Getaway.** Sylvia and Alan will book the party room in their centrally located apartment complex for your stay. Includes kitchenette, bathroom, and beds for up to 6 people. Available mid-June to end of Oct. for up to 5 days. Dates are negotiable. Would you like to visit Edmonton in August to take in the Fringe Theatre Festival or the Folk Music Festival? If so, one may then travel to Jasper National Park and Banff on the way home! Donated by Sylvia Krogh and Alan Boyle, Apt. 101 The Woodcroft Condo, 11561 – 136 Street NW, Edmonton, Alberta, phone 780-454-6216. Starting bid: \$100

#### **PRO SHOP**

**P1: Masked Handyman Services: "Have tools, will travel."** Three hours doing cleanup, gardening, hedge pruning, or small household repairs for each of three different bidders. Social distancing will be in place and Andy will be wearing a mask for inside work. Starting bid: \$100. Highly recommended by Peter Hancock. Offered by Andy Lee.

**P2: Sermon:** Rev. Melora will offer a 'sermon on a topic of your choice'. Offer includes a meeting with the minister to discuss the topic chosen. Starting bid: \$75

**P3: Landscaping Advice.** Horticulturist Val Roberts will give you two hours of expert advice on how to design your garden and which plants to choose. After the work is done, she will do a follow-up consultation. Starting bid: \$40 and work needs to be completed by July 24. One each to the two highest bidders. Social distancing will be observed.

**P4: Book and Counselling Session:** A free copy of Kressa's book, Get Out of Your Own Way. Included is a complimentary 1/2 hour online session via Facetime or Zoom on: "Counselling on how you are in your own way." Value \$60 Offered by Kressa Sisu (250-588-8605). Starting Bid: \$30

**P5: Sermon:** Rev. Shana will offer a 'sermon on a topic of your choice'. Offer includes a meeting with the minister to discuss the topic chosen. Starting bid: \$75

**P6: Closet Magic.** Jan will help you transform one of your cluttered closets from chaos to order. She will help you decide what to keep and what to do with the things you don't want to keep. She'll take unwanted clothes to suitable charities. Starting bid: \$50. Offered for two bidders by Jan Thomson.

*Continued on next page...*

**P7: Have Trailer—Will Haul.** Transport of items such as furniture, recycling, or contained yard waste (e.g., branches, clippings, etc.) using a 10' x 5' trailer. Maximum 40 km round trip from Oak Bay. The bidder helps to load, unload, clean (as necessary) and pay any tipping fees. Social distancing will be in place. Starting bid \$60. Offered by Doug McGinnis.

**P8: History Tour of Victoria:** Enthusiastically presented by Peter Scales, MA. Two hours. Three spaces available. The tour will take place later in the year after social distancing restrictions are lifted. Three spaces at \$50 each.

**P9: Decluttering.** One hour of decluttering. Starting Bid: \$35. Offered by Kressa Sisu.

**P10: Kindrewild Trio:** We play piano (Sheila Drew), flute (Esmee Rothschild), and violin (Lisa Kinshella) together for weddings, memorials, outdoor garden parties, charity events etc. We play classical and popular music. 15 years together. Contact Sheila Drew -250-598-1884 to book this group for your special occasion beginning in August with 4 weeks' notice. Starting bid: \$100 for one hour.

#### **TREAT SHOP**

**T1: Dutch Apple Pie:** Two of Marya's popular large Dutch Apple Pies with apples, walnuts, and cranberries. Pie serves 12-16. Eat now or freeze for later. Made for you with one week's notice. Pickup or delivery. One pie each to the two highest bids. Starting bid: \$25. Offered by Marya Nijland.

**T2: Sugared Nuts.** A tin of my delicious sugared nuts (filberts, almonds & walnuts) from an old family recipe. Starting bid: \$20. One tin each to the 2 highest bidders. For pickup or delivery. Offered by Suellen Guenther.

**T3: Homemade Ice Cream or Sorbet:** I will make two batches (approximately 14 half cup servings) of ice cream or sorbet (dairy free) in the flavour you choose. I have made vanilla, chocolate and mint chocolate chip ice cream and several fruit sorbets but am willing to attempt other flavours. I can prepare this for your special occasion with two weeks' notice. You pick up. One batch each to the two highest bids. Starting bid: \$30. Offered by Mary Cramer.

**T4: Christmas Pudding:** Traditional English Christmas Pudding in a 6" bowl with hard rum sauce delivered in December. The purchaser will need to steam it for about 3 hours the day it is eaten. 6 puddings at \$40 each. Offered by John Hopewell. (lay out sheet like EB with six \$40 slots and sold out)

**T5: Suzanne's Famous Carrot Cake:** Suzanne will make two of her famous carrot cakes for your special occasion with two weeks' notice. You pick up. Each cake serves 25. One cake each to the two highest bids. \$25 starting bid. Offered by Suzanne Dearman.

**T6: Cold Comfort Ice Cream #1:** A custom-made pint and delivery of Cold Comfort Ice Cream. Treat yourself or give it as a unique gift. Cold Comfort Ice Cream is made in small batches with local, natural, organic ingredients. Dairy-free also available. \$25 value. Starting bid: \$20. Donated by Autumn Maxwell.

**T7: Breakfast Sampler:** Assembled by Astrid Firley-Eaton.

**T8: Cold Comfort Ice Cream #2:** A custom-made pint and delivery of Cold Comfort Ice Cream. Treat yourself or give it as a unique gift. Cold Comfort Ice Cream is made in small batches with local, natural, organic ingredients. Dairy-free also available. \$25 value. Starting bid: \$20. Donated by Suellen Guenther.

**T9: Eileen's Butterscotch Cinnamon Rolls:** Five batches of butterscotch cinnamon rolls, made for you with 2 weeks' notice. You pick up. These were a favourite at a Royal Oak West NG gathering. Made by Glenyss Turner using her mother Eileen's recipe. Each batch \$15.

**T10: One dozen dessert crêpes** à la Julia Child freshly made the day of pick-up by our celebrated French chefs, Isabelle and François: 4 with homemade jam, 4 with Nutella and 4 with butter and honey. (If you choose just plain crêpes they are also delicious with your own cognac, fresh fruit, powdered sugar). Pick-up at the home of of the chefs in Royal Oak West on a convenient day for bidders. Starting bid: \$20/dozen. One dozen each to the four highest bids. Donated by Isabelle Grenon and François Duruisseau.

**T11: Lemon Marmalade:** Twelve jars at \$5 per 250ml jar. Pickup or delivery. Made by Marya Nijland.

**T12: Cheesecake:** A dozen individual-sized cheesecakes, made for you with two weeks' notice. Serves 6. Choice of cherry or blueberry toppings, or fresh fruit in season. Two offers, one each to the two highest bids. Starting bid: \$15. Offered by new member Kathie Doerksen, who also sings in our choir.

**T13: Ginger Seville Orange Marmalade:** Eighteen 250 ml jars at \$5.00 each. Made by Suzanne Dearman.

**T14: Patagonia Pear Jam with Australian Ginger:** Eight 250 ml jars at \$5.00 each. Made by Suzanne Dearman.

**T15: Quince Jelly:** Eight 250 ml jars at \$5.00 each. Made by Suzanne Dearman.

**T16: Mango Chutney:** Hot, strong, and dark. Eight 250 ml jars at \$6.00 each. Made by Suzanne Dearman.

**T17: Rich Gluten-Free Chocolate Cake.** Penny will make this delicious cake for your dinner or special occasion with two weeks' notice. Offered by Penny Boyce. Starting bid: \$20.

*Continued on next page...*

**T18: Treat Basket:** Assembled by Astrid Firley-Eaton

**T19: Rhubarb Squares:** Six large gourmet rhubarb squares made using rhubarb from the church garden and organic Fol Epi red fife flour. Offered by Marion Pape. Four packs of 6 squares. \$12 each.

**T20: Sherry Trifle:** Louise will make her famous sherry trifle for your tea party, brunch, dinner, or special occasion with two weeks' notice. Serves 8. One trifle each to the two highest bids. Starting bid: \$20.

**T21: Cool Mint Pie:** A family favourite for holidays and birthdays, I will make this frozen dessert for you and deliver it with two weeks' notice. Made with chocolate cookies, Creme de Menthe, marshmallow creme, & whipping cream. Starting bid: \$20. Offered by Jane Wilson.

**T22: Breakfast Sampler:** Assembled by Astrid Firley-Eaton

**T23: Antipasto with tuna, freshly made:** Fifteen 250 ml jars a \$10 each and one 500 ml jar at 20. Pick-up at their home or delivery for larger orders. Donated by Karen Furness and Barry Wiebe.

**T24: Barry's Homemade Granola:** Oats, almonds, pumpkin seeds, coconut, hemp hearts, cranberries, raisins, currants, blueberries, and honey. Eight 500 g bags. \$20 value. \$15 per bag. Offered by Barry Wiebe.

**T25: Saf-instant rapid rise yeast,** 454 gms (16 oz) in a sealed bag with tin foil lining. It will keep for over a year in the fridge. Value \$25. Starting bid \$20. Donated by Mollie Twidale.

#### **GIFT SHOP**

**G1: Placemats:** A set of four placemats in shades of brown, handmade and donated by Karla Thomson. Winner will pick up. Starting bid: \$30.

**G2: Hand-woven Wool Scarf.** Large woven wool scarf in soft colours, woven by my friend and donated by Suellen Guenther. Starting bid: \$20

**G3: Silver Chalice Necklace.** Sterling silver chalice and chain. \$50 value. Donated by Marya Nijland and Suellen Guenther. Starting Bid: \$20.

**G4: Purple Scandinavian Shawl:** Hand knit with Peruvian Highland wool. Starting bid: \$ 50. Offered by Marya Nijland.

**G5: Gift Basket:** Assembled by Astrid Firley-Eaton.

**G6: Dark Green Scandinavian Shawl:** Hand knit with Peruvian Highland wool. Starting bid: \$ 50. Offered by Marya Nijland.

**G7: Framed print of a painting by Lesley White.** "Remuda" (at the end of a day's work), (25" x 40") Starting bid: \$30. Offered by Lynne Bonner.

**G8: Teal Scandinavian Shawl:** Hand knit with Peruvian Highland wool. Starting bid: \$ 50. Offered by Marya Nijland.

**G9: Grey Scandinavian Shawl:** Hand knit with Peruvian Highland wool. Starting bid: \$ 50. Offered by Marya Nijland.

**G10: Silver Chalice Lapel Pin.** Sterling silver lapel pin. \$30 value. Donated by Marya Nijland and Nellie Van Leeuwen. Starting Bid: \$10.

**G11: Yellow Scandinavian Shawl:** Hand knit with Peruvian Highland wool. Starting bid: \$ 50. Offered by Marya Nijland.

**G12: Quilted Table Runner or Wall Hanging:** Made of Kaffe Faccet fabric, it is 16 1/2" w x 38" l. Made by Pat Kinrade. Starting bid: \$25.

**G13: Forest Green Scandinavian Shawl:** Hand knit with Peruvian Highland wool. Starting bid: \$ 50. Offered by Marya Nijland.

**G14: Black & White Scandinavian Shawl:** Hand knit with Italian wool, a bit heavier than the other shawls. Starting bid: \$ 50. Offered by Marya Nijland.

**G15: Metropolitan Art Greeting Cards:** Eight packages containing 10 cards with envelopes each, recycled by Marya from past Metropolitan Art Calendars. \$12 per package. Pickup or delivery. Offered by Marya Nijland.

**G16: Car/Lap Blanket #1:** Multi-fibres and colours. 87 X 78 cm. Starting bid: \$25. Offered by Marya Nijland.

**G17: Car/Lap Blanket #2:** Multi-fibres and colours. 68 X 66 cm. Starting bid: \$25. Offered by Marya Nijland.

**G18: A cotton canvas Anorak with fur ruff.** Worn only for a display purpose. Size: Men's large. \$300.00 Starting bid: \$40. Donated by Steve Sharlow.

**G19: Car/Lap Blanket #3:** Multi-fibres and colours. 75 X 75 cm. Starting bid: \$25. Offered by Marya Nijland.

**G20: Once Upon An Island:** This memoir recounts the 15 years I lived on the BC North Coast during the "back to the land" movement, building a log house on Porcher Island. It is the longer version of my story, "Home Is a Tent", published in the book *Gumboot Girls*. The book is 360 pages, with 109 photographs, 27 of them in colour. \$29.95 value. Starting bid: \$20. Offered by Suellen Guenther.

*Continued on next page...*

- G21: Car/Lap Blanket #4:** Multi-fibres and colours. 90 x 84 cm. Starting bid: \$25. Offered by Marya Nijland.
- G22: Women's Large Killtec Water Resistant Windproof Black Winter Coat:** Worn only once. Donated by Patricia Hofstrand. Original price: \$220. Starting bid: \$50.
- G23: Two Pink/Purple Ponchos:** One size fits all. Washable acrylic yarn. Starting bid: \$ 50 Hand knit by Marya Nijland. One each to the two highest bidders.
- G24: Knotless Netting Necklace.** Knotless netting is an ancient technique, originally used to repair fishing nets. Each unique necklace is made with waxed linen thread, glass beads, and a local naturally-polished stone or beach find. Handmade by Lori Waters. \$25 value. Starting bid: \$15.
- G25: Light Lemony Green Poncho:** One size fits all. Washable acrylic yarn. Starting bid: \$ 50 Hand knit by Marya Nijland.
- G26: Cosy, cuddly afghan** hand crocheted by Suzanne Beauchamp to one's personal preference of size and colour(s). The photo is a sample only. Starting bid: \$50.00
- G27: Grass Green Poncho:** One size fits all. DK wool and acrylic – hand washable in cool water. Starting bid: \$ 50 Hand knit by Marya Nijland.
- G28 Turquoise Poncho:** One size fits all. Washable acrylic yarn. Starting bid: \$ 50 Hand knit by Marya Nijland.
- G29: Wall Hanging.** Small wall hanging, 10"x18", titled "Angel of Hope." Created by Maggie Nixon. Starting bid: \$20.
- G30: Beautiful Mosaic for Indoors or outdoors, 19" X 19"** by artist Anne Swannell. Value: \$400. Starting bid: \$200. Donated by Anne Swannell.
- G31: Two Sets of Greeting Cards:** Each set includes 3 cards featuring Mary Cramer's beautiful photographs. \$10 per set. Offered by Mary Cramer.
- G32: Potted Plants for Your Garden.** A glazed pot (10" wide and 7" tall) planted with succulents. Similar to photo. Will thrive with total neglect. (Minimum bid of \$20.)



**Fun for the whole family!**

**Be**

**A**

**Winner**



**Is there something on the auction list  
that you really, really, really want?**

**Dinner for two? One of the sermons? A romantic getaway?**

If the item has a set price, bid when the shop opens at 8:00 a.m.

If the item is open for bidding, keep checking the bids and bidding higher. Bid just before  
the shop closes at 8:00 p.m.

**OR -- Be Audacious!**

Think of the money you would usually spend in the auction. Make a ridiculously high bid!

Make a bid no one else would even think of making!

Blow your competition out of the water!

You win the item and the church wins the money.

1. A Payment to the church for items you won in the auction **does not** qualify for a tax receipt. Identify your payment as **auction payment**.

2. A donation to the church in our Matching Challenge **does** qualify you for a tax receipt because you received nothing in return for your donation. Identify your donation as **auction donation**.

3. Did you buy gift cards from local businesses that you donated to the auction? The money you spent **does** qualify you for a tax receipt. Be sure to attach your original receipts to the form below and send or deliver it to the church.



### First Unitarian Church of Victoria

#### Request for an official donation receipt for income tax purposes

For the eligible amount of gift certificates, gift cards and performance tickets  
Donated by the purchaser to the auction to be held June 8-11, 2020.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY PROVINCE POSTAL CODE

PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIPTION OF ITEM: \_\_\_\_\_

AMOUNT PAID BY PURCHASER: \_\_\_\_\_

(Original receipt for this amount must be attached to this request; the CRA does not accept copies of credit card statements). Your receipt amount will be added to your annual pledge receipt mailed in February.

*For office use only:*

*Receipt #*

# SEEING DOUBLE



## Double Your Donation

DOUBLE YOUR DONATION

**Did you decide to "skip the dishes" by not offering a big dinner or other event in the auction this year?  
Would you like to support our church during this difficult time?**

**Make a donation to the church during our Matching Challenge.**

**A group of church members will match your donation, up to a maximum of \$7,000.**

**How high can we push the donation total?**

**Join the challenge! Get a tax receipt.**

**Any amount will be doubled.**

**Please mark your donation: auction donation.**

**Matching Challenge ends June 30.**

## FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF VICTORIA OFFICE GOES VIRTUAL.

For the safety of the staff and members of the congregation FUCV, the Church Office will no longer be staffed. The office staff will be working remotely.

What does this mean for our congregation?

It means that the **physical** office is closed until the government issues a return to work policy based on the end of the Covid-19 virus pandemic.

But the office staff is still hard at work from their home offices – “working remotely”.

They still can be reached through their usual emails:

Shannon’s emails:

[Fucv.communications@gmail.com](mailto:Fucv.communications@gmail.com)

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

Niki’s emails:

[fucv.churchoffice@gmail.com](mailto:fucv.churchoffice@gmail.com)

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

**Voice Messages can be left on the phone which will be retrieved on a daily basis.**

Their work hours remain the same:

**Shannon’s Hours:**

Tuesdays thru Thursdays: 10 am to 4 pm

**Niki’s hours:**

Sunday: 9-1

Monday: 9-3

Tuesday: 9-1

Wednesday: 9-1

Thursday: 12-4

If you require any printing done that you cannot do yourself or some office urgent task, that **cannot be postponed until the pandemic is over**, please let us know and we will look after it for you.

There is a lockbox with a key on the front door of the office. If you have authorization (are a board member or committee member and have access to the code) and you do come to the office, please put your name on the sign-in sheet located on a clip board on the table in front of the west facing windows. We are trying to keep track of anyone who comes into the office during its official closure. This relates to security as well as sanitation standards for the office to assist in avoiding any contamination of Covid-19.

## History of Share the Plate - 10 year Anniversary March 2010 - 2010

Christine Johnston

The Social Responsibility Coalition (SRC) was full of energy 10 years ago, and some creative people joined the stalwarts already there. For example, Don and Clare Vipond had recently joined and they implemented with gusto Earle Anthony's inspiring idea of Healing Our World. They began organizing Lifeline too. Many new ideas were being floated around. Another new face was Jean McBean (John Worton's talented wife, who sadly died of cancer a couple of years later) and she had picked up a great new idea, now called Share the Plate, from the UU Edmonton Church. The SRC members thought it well worth trying and approached the Board. We in the SRC realized we had perhaps been missing a fundamental truth of fundraising. The idea is illustrated below in a simple model:

In a town there were 2 congregations of equal size and wealth (called here A and B). When extra donations were needed for a hardship (such as earth quake or flood hit the town) they reacted differently. Both Churches (A and B) asked members to help the Church financially (e.g. repair the building) by ongoing increased Sunday donations.

But here the surprising thing:

Church A asked only for itself. They received \$1,000 in a month.

Church B asked for itself but also for a soup kitchen it was running for the needy of the whole town plus some additional food to be sent to a nearby poor country. They received \$2,200 a month.

Such is the human heart ! The Amount received was More than Double!!!

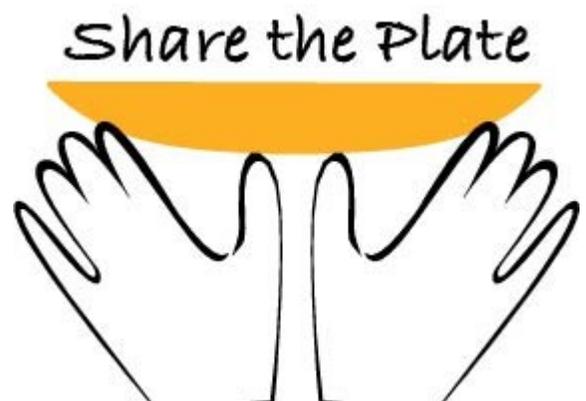
SRC sent Board Liaison (Philip Symons) to convince the Board to try it - and they did in March, 2010! The idea was launched in April and although it did not bring big results at first it built gradually. The program was called Share the Wealth at first and was combined with an Action of the Month. Soon the congregation was donating More than Double consistently.

We were all amazed this same fundraising principle applied also to FUCV!

One major addition was suggested by then SRC Chair, Leslie Gillett, a few years ago: Involve the congregation in sponsoring different Canadian Charities each month and this has proved successful. The Share the Plate team is currently Jim Willis (Chair), Margot Lods (Secretary) and Christine Johnston (Treasurer).

Sadly we shall freeze Share the Plate during Covid-19 restrictions for a month or two until we again have face-to-face services, but it does not change the fundamental principle.

We are indeed a congregation with a reputation for generous giving!



## **Lifeline List Project and the Ethel May Trust – an accounting**

Compassion is compassion; accounting is accounting. When it comes to spending your money in compassionate ways, we offer you here a picture of the spending by these two projects for the past almost year and a half, Jan. 1, 2019 up to this year mid-May.

First, a little history. The Lifeline List Project began late in 2004, an idea brought to our church by a volunteer involved in downtown street minister Al Tysick's work. The Ethel May Trust, a substantial fund established by the late Ted Humphries and operated by three trustees, women of our church, came on line the following year. Both projects have the same mandate: to assist local individuals and families who ask us for help and who have genuine needs, confirmed by a personal interview. They have done that for several hundred adults and children over the past 16 years.

In 2019, the 65 sponsors of the Lifeline List Project, all members or friends of this church, helped seven individuals or families. The Ethel May Trust helped three families. The two projects shared the cost in another seven cases. In total, our community was there for 18 families. Sponsors of the Lifeline List contributed \$5,994 and the Trust contributed \$8,724.

To date this year, the Trust has helped two church members, small business owners hard hit by the pandemic. It also helped a woman with three children relocate after leaving an abusive relationship. Total cost \$2,600. With personal interviews impossible at this time, we do what we can to confirm needs are genuine.

This year the Lifeline List helped a woman with multiple needs (see Newsletter story, May issue) and is currently exploring what it can do for a family of three with major health issues and reduced income.

Curiously, requests for help have dropped dramatically during the pandemic. We are left to speculate why. But there is no doubt that these two projects continue to make a difference in the lives of local people touched by them. Last year one of them wrote:

“Your generosity means the world to me and I am so grateful. It warms my heart that in such difficult times there are people out there that are there to help, even though they may not even know me. I will never forget your generous hearts and will keep this deed as a reminder to do the same for others. From the bottom of my heart, thank you.”

# COVID-19: A Wake-up Call from Mother Nature?

## Part 2 of 3

### Part 2: Are the Bats to Blame for COVID-19?

In [May's Newsletter](#), I wrote about the alarming rise of diseases from animals, known as **zoonoses**. Scientists believe that bats may have been the source of the COVID-19 virus, with possibly an intermediary species (perhaps pangolins) that bridged the virus from bats to humans. This month we look at the underlying causes of the rise in zoonoses. Are the bats to blame for COVID-19?

Well, the short answer is, no, it's not the bats' fault. As Dr. Sumira Mubareka, a clinical scientist with Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre in Toronto, put it in an [interview](#) on *The Agenda*, with Steve Paikin on March 24, 2020:

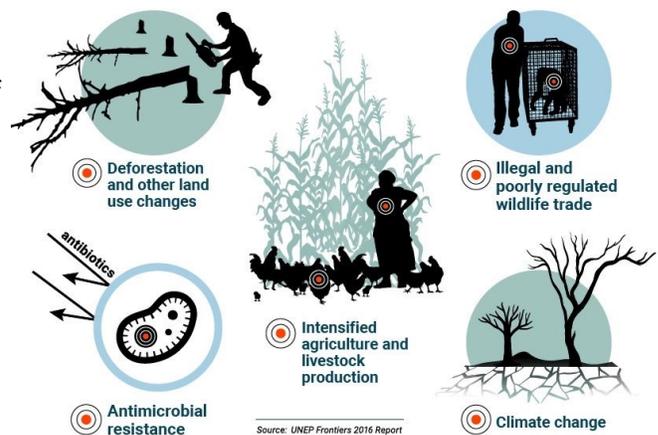
*The bats are not the problem. I would even say the virus is not the problem. It's really been our behaviour as humans that's been the issue. We've managed to pretty much encroach on every corner of the planet and into the natural world where normally we would not be coming into contact with some of these viruses. And the more often we do that, the more we disrupt habitat and come into close contact or proximity to these viruses, the more likely we are to select for some mutations that would benefit the virus in terms of replicating in a human. So, we have to acknowledge our role in this pandemic.*

What particular human behaviours have increased our risk to diseases from animals? The following categories get frequently mentioned.

#### DEFORESTATION AND OTHER LAND CHANGE USES

According to the Union of Concerned Scientists, in their article [What's Driving Deforestation?](#), just four commodities drive the majority of tropical deforestation: beef, soy, palm oil, and wood products. The article states, "Growing global demand for meat and dairy products has contributed to the doubling of soybean

#### What factors are increasing zoonosis emergence? (Diseases transmitted from animals to humans)



#COVID19

UN  
environment  
programme

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production in the last 20 years. Soy is primarily used to feed pork, poultry, and dairy cows, though significant amounts are also used to produce vegetable oil and biodiesel.” Other human activities, such as road building, rapid urbanization, population growth, mining, and logging rob wildlife of their habitat and bring people into closer contact with animals. Scientist Richard Ostfield said in [The Guardian](#), “The more we disturb the forests and habitats, the more danger we are in.”

## **DESTRUCTION OF BIODIVERSITY**

Human destruction of biodiversity is another culprit for the rise in zoonotic diseases. Biodiversity scientist Kate Jones stated in [The Guardian](#), “We are researching how species in degraded habitats are likely to carry more viruses which can infect humans. Simpler systems get an amplification effect. Destroy landscapes, and the species you are left with are the ones humans gets the diseases from.”

## **CLIMATE CHANGE**

Climate change can increase our risk for zoonotic diseases. Rising temperatures can change the range of disease-carrying mosquitoes and ticks, allowing for an increased geographic spread of diseases such as malaria and Lyme disease. Warming can also cause animals to migrate to new locations, bringing them in closer contact with humans. Sea level rise and flooding can lead to higher risks of water-borne zoonoses. Thawing of the permafrost in the Arctic has also raised the fear of thawing zoonotic pathogens such as with anthrax in reindeer.

## **INTENSIVE ANIMAL AGRICULTURE**

High intensity farming, with large numbers of animals crowded together, sometimes in deplorable conditions, can allow zoonotic diseases to spread rapidly. In addition, for years the medical establishment has been decrying the over-usage of antibiotics in animal agriculture, which accounts for 80% of all antibiotics sold in the US. Used primarily as growth promoters, this over-use of antibiotics among densely populated, stressed animals is a leading cause of antibiotic resistance and, according to an article in the [American Journal of Public Health](#), could prove catastrophic to public health.

## **ILLEGAL AND POORLY REGULATED WILDLIFE TRADE**

The capture, transport, slaughtering, and eating of wild animals is not confined to the wet markets of China. Wild animals are sold for food or pets elsewhere in Asia and Africa. According to Professor Andrew Cunningham of the Zoological Society of London in [The Guardian](#), “The animals have been transported over large distances and are crammed together in cages. They are stressed and immunosuppressed and excreting whatever pathogens they have in them. With large numbers of people in the market...you have an ideal mixing bowl for disease emergence.” While many researchers believe these markets should be closed for public health, animal welfare and biodiversity reasons, the World Health Organization recently [announced](#) that it, “does not recommend that these markets be shut down globally....[as] they are the source of food

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## TRAVEL AND TOURISM

In our current COVID-19 pandemic, global travel and tourism demonstrated how quickly a highly infectious contagion can spread around the world. Airplanes and cruise ships have acted as both virus accelerators and petri dishes. In addition, the proliferation of the ability to work or study overseas (with multiple long-haul flights involved), student exchanges, volunteer tourism, destination weddings, eco-adventure travel, water rafting, and the exploration of exotic locations have all increased the risk of exposure to and spread of zoonotic diseases. Whether these activities will continue to be curtailed once the world has a vaccine or treatment for COVID-19 remains to be seen. COVID-19 might be conquered, but the risk from zoonoses will continue to rise as long as humans continue to encroach on the natural world in these ways.

**Part 1: The Rise of Diseases from Animals?** ([May Newsletter](#))

**Part 3: What Can We Do to Help Prevent Zoonotic Diseases?** (July Newsletter)

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### **Zoom gathering of the Royal Oak East Neighbourhood Group.**

On April 28, 2020 our Neighbourhood Group had its first zoom meeting, kindly set up by Bernhard. The reaction to this idea was very enthusiastic and nearly all of us were present. And, as an extra bonus, for the very first time it was possible for Brenda Greenwood, who is homebound, to join us.

As the convener I opened the gathering with the sound of the singing bowl and by lighting the chalice, thanking everyone for his or her ongoing supportive and caring participation.

One reason for getting together was our wish to do something **in memory of our long time member Jim Hackler**. As agreed beforehand we each took turn to light a candle and shared our thoughts and feelings about our relationship with Jim. Many of us have known him as a very generous person, with a keen interest in contributing to educational opportunities for girls in developing countries, his adventurous bike trips in other countries when well in his eighties, his delight in meaningful conversations, his hospitality in inviting several of us for dinner at his Rosebank retirement home, bringing mandarins for our potlucks, his devotion to his wife bunny, and his overall commitment to social justice. He spoke with a twinkle in his eyes and lived a life focused on connecting and making the world a better place. We will miss him.

After this important reflection we **shared some of the new and different ways** we are doing in reaction to covid-19. Having zoom meetings was certainly new for all of us, whether as a way to connect with family, book club members, church service, painting group or meetings for more serious matters. The general comment was that it is not at all the same as meeting in person, but it was a good second best. Some of us are cooking more experimental and elaborate, doing schoolwork on line, finding ways to visit while keeping social distance, or immersing into family history. Most of us spend more time in nature, for walks and/or working in the garden.

Our first zoom meeting was so well received that we have decided to have another one about a month from now. Bernhard and I will set the date.

Blessed be.  
Hanny Pannekoek, Convener

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## **What Can a Trillion Dollars Buy?**

I recently attended a small virtual meeting of Unitarians from across America, led by Bruce Knott, Director of the Unitarian Universalists at the United Nations (UU@UN the new name for UU-UNO). There is a broad movement underway to dismantle nuclear weapons. While it includes the usual activists, it also includes many western military people who feel the cost of maintaining the arsenal is unsustainable. The group will meet again and undertake some work on the topic. I will keep you informed.

This is from Bruce's remarks: ***The Sustainable Defense Task Force, a group of former US Congressional and Pentagon budget officials and other experts, released a report 'Sustainable Defence: More Security: Less Spending' which noted "[T]he most urgent threats to U.S. security are non-military, and the proper national security tools ought to be non-military as well. [The threats] include climate change, which undermines frontiers, leads to unpredictable extreme weather, and fosters uncontrollable migration . . . global disease epidemics, which pose societal risks to all nations; and income and wealth gaps, which foster insecurity and conflict."***

***One trillion dollars is being spent to modernize the nuclear arsenals of nine countries over the next 10 years.***

This money could instead be used to help address the corona virus pandemic, end poverty, protect the climate, build global peace and achieve the sustainable development goals. Here is what one trillion dollars could do:

1. UN Budget for 10 years, and
2. build 100 million homes,
3. one million wind turbines,
4. three million home solar systems,
5. medication for all HIV infected Africans,
6. 20 billion new trees in Africa,
7. tuition for 200,000 students at top U.S. universities,
8. 1 million electric cars,
9. rebuild Haiti,
10. eliminate malaria in Africa,
11. salaries for up to 10 million teachers,
12. 10 years of preventive healthcare for all Africans,
13. 67 million clean biomass stoves,
14. 1 million freshwater wells in Africa,
15. 400,000 hospitals, and
16. food for 780 million malnourished people.

according to <http://www.nuclearweaponsmoney.org/about/>

Jim Hemstock, Denominational Affairs

## What Is Parenting Like For You?

Darcy Allder

transcript from Parenting These Days worship service, Oct 27th, 2019

Watch the entire service at [tinyurl.com/fucv-ptd](https://tinyurl.com/fucv-ptd)

Becoming a Dad was a big transition in my life. Likely the biggest, and not the first. The first transition was coming out as gay at 12 and then transgender at 18. The switch to I am second and then third priority in my own life while simultaneously maintaining self-care and prioritizing my own needs has been a balancing act.

As the birthing parent of one of my children and a non-biological parent of the other, I find the roles of mother and father deeply trying. It is as if I am both and neither. From being told to give up my seat on the bus when I was 9 months pregnant because I was a fat boy, to being told I cannot really be my child's dad by their best friend. Gender roles are painful, and transphobia is real.

When I look to my wife who thankfully agreed to go on this parenting journey with me, I often ask how do so many people do this extremely hard job? Pregnancy was horrible, Birth was amazing, and parenting well.... I haven't slept more than 10 uninterrupted nights in the last 5 years.

However when I interact with a child, I see their potential, for love, connection, to enact change. Their innate desire to please and to be witnessed... It fills me with motivation to be the best social worker, the best me, and the best parent I can be. Whether it is supporting the children and youth I worked with professionally or looking into my own children's eyes I want all children to feel they have inherent worth, that their thoughts and feelings are real and valid.

My two children are loved by me for who they are not in spite of it. Being a Queer social worker and creating an intentional family, I cannot think about parenting without thinking about foster care and the privileges I experience. While I gave up raw milk and runny eggs while pregnant I know others struggle to decrease substance use or find a safe place to stay.

I think about how my parenting would be judged by the Ministry, knowing that I am white, middle class and educated. I teach my kids about institutionalized racism, classism and addiction. Yes and 3 and 4 years old my kids can talk about these topics. And I hope it instills empathy.



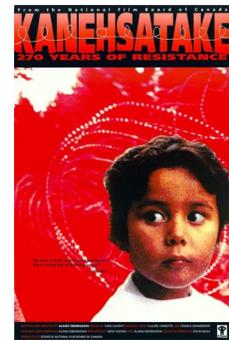
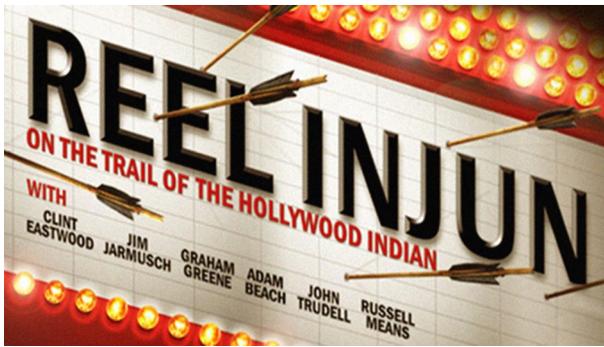
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When the neighbour kid wants to play “Put the bad guys in jail” and I pause talking to my kids saying- Jail is a real place, sometimes adults make mistakes or didn’t have choices so they go to jail. They are not bad people. Remember those people can be parents too. So think about your words and the games you choose... now go play...

I hope it decreases the shame for at least one child who is missing their parent. That it opens doors for connection so that understanding can grow.

I am still new to parenting. I will learn and grow and change right along side my wife and my children. Thank you all for being a supportive community for us to experience this journey with.



**Another Chance for Participation:  
A Guided Film Discussion Series to Deepen our Commitment to Truth, Healing, Relationship & Reconciliation**  
5 sessions, September - November

A team from the Capital and First Unitarian congregations will again facilitate a *Truth, Healing, and Reconciliation Film Discussion Series* based on five Indigenous lead films. The series is guided by material developed by the Canadian Unitarian Council (CUC). The aim is to help us reach a deeper understanding of the relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in Canada and our shared history and its impacts.

Registered participants will watch the following films online (a link will be provided).

- People of the Feather*: Joel Heath
- Reel Injun*: Neil Diamond
- We Were Children*: Tim Wolochatiuk
- Kanehsatake: 270 Years of Resistance*: Alanis Obomsawin
- KONELINE: our land beautiful*: Nettie Wild
- CBC 8th Fire*: episodes 1-4

The CUC has provided reflection materials that will be distributed to participants, who will gather for a facilitated discussion of issues raised by each film.

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### Mark your calendars!

A group of about 10 people will meet to discuss the films with 5 meetings in total. As long as/if physical distancing guidelines are still in place we will meet via Zoom. Intentional Gatherings are Tuesday afternoons, 1:30-3:30 p.m. at First Unitarian (or online), **September 22, October 6 & 20, and November 3 & 17**. The facilitators are Karen Christie, Capital Unitarian Universalist Congregation (CUUC), and Evelyn Peters (FUCV). (See brief bios below).

Preference will be given to those who can attend all 5 sessions.

To **register please email** Evelyn Peters at [Evelyn.Joy.Peters@outlook.ca](mailto:Evelyn.Joy.Peters@outlook.ca) or call her at 788.265.5279.

### Bios

Evelyn Peters attends the FUCV. Recently retired, she was a professor at Queen's Carleton and Christchurch (NZ) Universities, and the Universities of Saskatchewan and Winnipeg. A Canada Research Chair for seventeen years, her areas of research focused on urban Indigenous issues and Aboriginal people and public policy in Canada. She worked with numerous local, provincial and national Indigenous organizations in Canada, as well as with a variety of government departments and NGOs. She is deeply committed to education as an essential step toward decolonization.

Karen Christie is a Board member of the Capital Unitarian Universalist Congregation. She also chairs the Membership Committee there, and organizes pub nights for thirsty souls! Her deep knowledge of challenges and rewards of developing cross-cultural relationships are rooted in her work in international development with NGO's in Ottawa, a multi-national security organization in former Yugoslavia, and eventually Global Affairs Canada in Africa, Afghanistan and Haiti. She has lived and worked on six continents, and is especially committed to the first principle of Unitarianism, the inherent worth and dignity of every person.



## SRC ASSISTANCE

The SRC, along with support from others, is promoting ASSISTANCE to any person needing it.

Since the pandemic began, Kym Hines (a member of our Church who has a long resume with regards to mutual community aid) along with his house ally, Maev Robinson, have been doing what they can to provide help for our street community as well as their housed neighbours who are in need. Kym relays needs to Maev from the streets, and Maev (posts them on a Facebook page called: COVID-19 Coming Together (Victoria/L'kwungen WSANEC Lands) and when the request is filled, Maev lets Kym know, pickup is arranged, and Kym makes sure he gets the item to where it needs to go. With the help of Dar Gareau-Levy they have extended the action to our Church's Facebook page. Maev or Kym shares the requests they have with me by text, and Dar posts them as well as coordinating pickup. And rest assured Kym is practicing all the pandemic protocols.

Kym also stresses that you don't have to be homeless to take advantage of his help, and cites the organization of our Neighbourhood Groups as a good example of what he is trying to extend to everyone.

In his words: "Let's coordinate between the Groups and needs that we can help fulfill quickly on Facebook. If a need arises from a Neighbourhood Group it can be relayed to our Facebook page. And on the COVID-19 page, if requested".

LEOHN stands for Lived Experience of Homelessness Network. It is made up approximately 80 members across Canada with 20 local active members who are living homeless.

We're all in this together.

## VERA AWARD

The Invitation for nominating a church member for the VERA award has arrived:

'The UVic Institute on Aging and Lifelong Health, in partnership with the Eldercare Foundation, want to help you celebrate your exceptional older volunteers all year long by nominating them for the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Valued Elder Recognition Award (VERA)! The VERA celebrates and shines a spotlight on the immense value older adults contribute to their community and to society as a whole.

If your organization has a volunteer who has volunteered 10 or more years in the Capital Regional District (CRD), consider recognizing their remarkable contributions to our community by nominating her or him for this award.

While we usually celebrate our award recipients at an in-person ceremony, due to the currently evolving health situation, all nominees will be honoured at our virtual celebration on the United Nations International Day of Older Persons event on Thursday, October 1, 2020 in Victoria, BC.'

To nominate an individual, please e-mail the name to Betty Sherwood or Elaine Dakin. ([bsherwood@shaw.ca](mailto:bsherwood@shaw.ca) or [ecdakin44@gmail.com](mailto:ecdakin44@gmail.com)). We will select the person at random by pulling a name 'out of a hat' on May 31<sup>st</sup>. If the person you have nominated is selected, we will e-mail you the nomination form, the directions for obtaining letters of support from the community and information about where to deliver your nomination package. The deadline for delivering this package to UVic is Tuesday, June 30, 2020 at 4:30 pm. Past recipients are: Barb Nyland, Christine Johnson, Ted Humphreys and Philip Symons.



## **GVAT Scores a Victory amidst the Pandemic!**

Wow! We've done it!

In May last month, the City of Victoria unanimously passed a resolution based on GVAT's "Housing for All" campaign. The resolution asked the provincial government to provide shelter and support services for all those currently homeless, not just those in Pandora and Topaz Park camps. An amendment to the resolution supported GVAT's call for more affordable housing across all neighbourhoods in Greater Victoria.

As Chet Phillips, GVAT's lead organizer, wrote, "This victory for GVAT and some of our most vulnerable Victoria residents is a testament to the strength and commitment of our network: all of our supporters and committed volunteers."

Our church remains one of the most committed GVAT members, supporting GVAT both financially (through our January plate collection and private donations) and through representation on the GVAT Board, Strategy Hub and Action Research Teams (ARTs). But not surprisingly, a few of our volunteers have found the work load unsustainable and are retiring. But many hands make light work: if you would like to be on our GVAT core group or on one of the three ARTs (Housing; Mental Health and Addictions; and Climate Change), please contact Susan Layng ([salwplg@telus.net](mailto:salwplg@telus.net)), our core-group leader.

GVAT members want and need more victories to meet our goals! The Housing ART and Chet are meeting with Selina Robinson, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and building relationships across provincial ministries related to housing, climate and mental health. The goal is to get the province (with municipal and federal support) to meet the need for wrap-around support services for the un-housed, and "to purchase buildings and lands for a massive increase in non-market housing for low and middle income families." To achieve this, Chet's spoken on CBC radio and GVAT is building other media contacts.

Go GVAT, *go!*

Core Group members: Susan Layng, Kym Hines, Hanny Pannekoek, Philip Symons; Housing ART, Lynn Beak; *ex officio* Rev. Melora Lynngood, Marion Pape.

## Victoria and South Island Faith Leaders' letter concerning the Homeless

If you sense and believe that you can be an agent of positive change in our world, and you hold that it is possible for us to generate greater justice, greater harmony, and greater peace, then you are, in essence, a person of faith. Our faith traditions offer teachings, narratives and details that are often clouded in mysteries or obscured by semantics and these can sometimes generate division and separation. However, when we glimpse how interconnected all of creation really is, we can transcend division and fear and move towards Oneness. To love the other as you love yourself is a powerful commitment that faith demands from each of us and this tenet is found in almost all spiritual and wisdom traditions.

One way that love manifests is through wanting another person to have and experience the things that I need and cherish for myself, like waking up in a warm dry bed in a secure place that is my own. My sense is that a real marker of a spiritual awakening is rising compassion. The word compassion literally means, "to suffer together." Deep compassion sometimes hurts. Compassion towards the homeless in our community begins when we realize that the homeless are us. The homeless are not some strange tribe of people who congregate on Pandora Avenue or Topaz Park. The homeless are our siblings.

Homelessness is a painful image reflected back to all of us from the mirror of our collective soul. We can spin discourses on the origins of our homeless problem but, in doing so, we often place the blame on something outside of ourselves and fail to take ownership of reality. We know from our faith traditions and we know from rational logic that the most vulnerable in our community need to be in the centre of our community. The center is the place where they are protected, visible and accessible to those who can offer the care and support they need. Marginalization as a default is emblematic of injustice. The fact that we turn to our police force to maintain order and to protect us from our community's weakest members feels like we are losing our faith as a collective and buying into a manipulative narrative that feeds our fear. Fear pounds into our consciousness that there is lack, that we are limited, and that we need to shore up our own needs and compete with one another for basic survival. This fear-driven narrative of lack, competition, mistrust generates division and is antithetical to faith.

We have no magic wand to neatly solve this enormous issue. We know that insights and wise choices need to come from both the top down and the bottom up. The first century BCE sage Hillel taught: "If I am not for myself, who will be for me? If I am only for myself, what am I? If not now, when?" We need to ensure that our actions are doable and sustainable. There is a difference between discomfort and irreparable damage. We must act because not acting or pushing this off onto others diminishes us as a compassionate community. We must act now. Let's show each other that we really mean it when we say, "We are in this together."

Rabbi Harry Brechner, Congregation Emanu-el

Rev. Lyndon Sayers and Lyle McKenzie, Co-Pastors, Lutheran Church of the Cross

Rev. Shana and Melora Lynngood, Co-Ministers of First Unitarian Church of Victoria

Rev. Beth Walker, Fairfield United Church

Father William Hann, Capital Region Social Justice and Action Committee of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Victoria

The Ven Alastair McCollum, Archdeacon, Diocese of Islands and Inlets; Incumbent, St John the Divine Anglican Church

Rev. Mark Green and Margaret Harper, Cadboro Bay United Church

Rev. Cheryl Black and Betty Ann Dempsey, St. Aidan's United Church

## 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

<b>President</b>	Marion Pape
<b>Vice President</b>	Steve Sharlow
<b>Treasurer</b>	Kathleen Zimmerman
<b>Secretary</b>	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](mailto:laychaplains@victoriaunitarian.ca)



## We Care!

### Care and Concern Committee

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

**Barbara Boyle at 250-381-0264**

or your Neighbourhood Group Care & Concern person

## CALENDAR:

[CLICK HERE](#)



## BIRTHDAYS IN JUNE

Dar	Gareau-Levy	June 01
Bruce	Bennett	June 06
Jane	Bramadat	June 07
Bernhard	Spalteholz	June 07
Marion	Irish	June 08
Allan	Dakin	June 09
Mark	Danley	June 10
Kathryn	Saunders	June 10
Michael	Thorne	June 10
Rene	Taylor-Lowen	June 12
Gita	John-Iyam	June 14
Sarah-Mae	Adam	June 17
Johan	van Gessel	June 17
Bradley	Clarke	June 19
Melora	Lynngood	June 19
Russell	Mellett	June 21
Marian	Foucault	June 30

### DECEASED

Michael Ramsay:-

Born: March 21, 1959 - Died: April 23, 2020

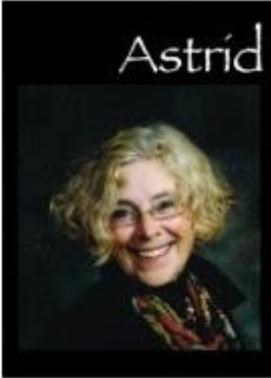
Wilma Neilson— Died: April 15, 2020

Jim Hackler — Died: April 13, 2020

### MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

**New Members:** David and Emily Teitz

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



**Astrid Firley-Eaton**  
Design

interior design  
colour consultation

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[afe.design@firley.ca](mailto:afe.design@firley.ca)



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For those without email, copy may be left at the church  
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**Staff:** Barbara Nyland and Jen Young (editors); Shannon  
Oatway (production, distribution and paid advertisements).