



The Victoria Unitarian

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

SERVICES IN APRIL 2021

SUNDAY SERVICES BEGIN AT 10:30 am

Sunday, April 4, 10:30am

Easter Sunday—Post-Pandemic Resurrection

Rev. Shana Lynngood, homilist

Casey Stainsby, worship associate

As we begin to see the light at the end of the COVID tunnel, the idea of resurrection takes on, perhaps, new and profound meaning.

What does the Christian story of Easter, of life after death and transformation say to us in our current context? What will life after the tomb of loss and isolation and reflection look like? How can we prepare ourselves for the resumption of some of life’s rhythms? What are we returning to that we would like to have resume as it was, what do we hope has changed?



Sunday, April 11, 10:30am

Ramadan

Rev. Melora Lynngood, homilist

David Vest, worship associate

Ramadan begins the evening of April 13 this year and continues through May 12. We’ll look at what meaning this tradition has for Muslim Unitarian Universalists, as well as any insights this season of reflection might offer to Unitarian Universalists of all faiths.

Sunday, April 18, 10:30am

Earth Day

Ken Wu from the Endangered Ecosystem Alliance, homilist David Tietz, worship associate

As usual on Earth Day we focus on our seventh principle: Respect for the interdependent web of being of which we are all part. Join members of the Environmental Action Team and presenter Ken Wu from the Endangered Ecosystem Alliance and learn more about the ecosystems which sustain us and how we might protect and restore them.

Continued next page...

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 from previous page

Sunday, April 25, 10:30am

Rev. Shana Lynngood, homilist

Unfolding Life

Fran Pardee, worship associate

The season of Spring reminds us that becoming often looks like unfolding. We lean out into life and learn things along the way, adding detail and color and growth into the mix. How do we allow the unfolding rather than force it? How do we ensure that we notice the lessons and the beauty along the way? This will be the final Lynngood Sunday for a few months (until August 22nd) as we unfold into the renewal of sabbatical before (we hope!) we resume in-person services in the Fall.

MINISTERS' SABBATICAL, MAY AND JUNE 2021

Reverends Shana and Melora receive one month of sabbatical leave for each year of service to our church. In order to avoid a long absence, they are experimenting with "mini-sabbaticals" taken more frequently.

The Board has approved a two month "mini-sabbatical" this May and June, followed in July and the first part of August by the ministers' annual two weeks' vacation and annual four weeks' study leave. The ministers will also take a three month "mini-sabbatical" in February, March and June of 2023.

While the ministers are away, the Committee on Ministry will serve as the Sabbatical Team, a hub for overseeing the ministry of the congregation, in concert with the Care and Concern Team (for pastoral care needs) and the Worship Associates (for vibrant worship led by guests and lay leaders). The April newsletter will contain detailed information with both a list of contacts and full worship schedule for May and June.



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, Shelley Motz.

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CUC National Conference and AGM

Mark your calendars. The CUC conference and annual meeting will be held on the Victoria long weekend. Information on proposed resolutions and conference sessions will be available at the end of March. More detail is at: <https://cuc.ca/about-cuc/annual-general-meeting/> or you can call Jim Hemstock at 250-389-1448.



Canadian Unitarian Council
Conseil unitarien du Canada

Interdependence. Love. Justice.

Our family extends a warm thank you for the many cards of condolences on the passing of our dear Florence, wife, mother, grandmother, teacher and friend.

Keith Jobson and Family



Still Becoming

Sometimes it feels to me like our monthly theme arrives precisely at the moment it is most needed, and this month is certainly one of them. As we now begin to see the light at the end of a nearly year and a half COVID-19 tunnel, what

are we becoming? Has this time of distancing been a sort of hibernation or cocooning for you? Has it felt regenerative in some way? Or, has it just felt like a stagnant and isolated time? Have you been sad and grieving? Has it been a relief not to have to fulfill social obligations? Has it been all of the above?

The Soul Matters packet this month has a quotation from Albert Schweitzer that I find compelling, “The path of awakening is not about becoming who you are. Rather it is about unbecoming who you are not.” I suppose, in truth, it is bit of everything, both learning and growing and evolving over time to become who you most feel yourself to be, and unbecoming all of the messages you were taught that never felt true or real for you. Becoming could mean embracing your sense of yourself and your personality traits by leaning into and toward those things that nurture you. It could mean rejecting messages you received as a child about what you needed to do or be in order to be loved. Becoming can mean so many things. In this time in our world, we are about to become a post-pandemic people, and we humans haven't had to become that in a long time. We don't know what it will look like. We DO know we will need to be flexible and ready to be open to meeting one another at whatever place the challenges and heartbreak and possibilities of this time have left each of us.

I can nearly picture us back together again in the Fall. At the same time, I recognize that our renewed togetherness will not be exactly as it was in March 2020. There were likely still be masks involved, for example, and still lots of people joining us by Zoom. What I know is that it will be good to become through those next steps together.

Becoming Together



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Theme Questions

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Here are this month's questions for reflection:

Was being told "You can become anything" good for you or bad?

What has "growing older" unexpectedly birthed in you?

Many of us mark the first day of our becoming as the time when we discovered one of our core passions. When did you discover your first passion? How has it grown and morphed over the years? How are you being called to rekindle it anew?

What if becoming first requires us to unbecome who we are not? Is it possible that you need to unravel before you can unfold?

What are you doing to ensure that you don't become a person who has regrets?

"See" you in church,

Rev. Shana

First Unitarian Church of Victoria Foundation

Call for Grant Proposals

The First Unitarian Church of Victoria Foundation was established to promote the principles and values of our Church. Currently the Foundation has contributions invested with the Victoria Foundation totalling approximately \$87,000. Income from approximately \$47,000 of these funds is dedicated to supporting First Nations post-secondary education through the Church. Income from the approximately \$38,000, is directed by request of the donor to support the music programme and/or social responsibility programmes of the Church.

In 2020 the Foundation funded three bursaries totalling \$1,600 for First Nations students attending Camosun College and granted \$1,200, for the musical enhancement of Sunday Services. This year we anticipate around \$1,800 will be available to fund two ongoing First Nations bursaries at Camosun College from the First Nations Fund.

The Foundation is currently seeking proposals from Church groups who need a grant of up to \$1,800 to fund church music programmes. Applications must be for enhanced activities not normally supported by the Church budget and must cover costs not yet incurred. An application form is available from the church website under FUCV Foundation.

The deadline for submission is April 30, 2021 and funding will be approved in May by the Board of the First Unitarian Church of Victoria Foundation.

AUCTION FEVER

ONLINE -- ACT II

Mark your calendar:

June 7, 8, 9, 10

**Curtain rises at 8:00 am and
falls at 8:00 pm**

Different offerings every day

**What could you contribute? A gift card?
A service? A meal? Something handmade?**

To donate, contact Fran at hancockf@telus.net or 250-477-1310

Taxes on Your Mind? Thinking About Income Tax Receipts?



Consider buying a gift card to support a local business, then contact Kathy Vinton to donate your card to the auction:

**krvinton@shaw.ca or
250-882-8650.**

To obtain your 2021 tax receipt, attach your sales receipt to this special donation form (link below) and send it to the church office.



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 7-10, 2021.

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 included in your annual donation receipt mailed in February.

Thank you.

For office use only:

Receipt #

Tradition!

Some items are Auction favourites.

What are you willing to offer?

Dessert * Knitting * Jewellery

Lunch * Preserves * Gift Card

Dinner * Mending * Hauling

Dog Walking * An Event * Brunch

Something Handmade * A Skill

Take Out

Help keep the TRADITION alive!

Contact Fran: hancockf@telus.net or phone 250-477-1310



**Could you contribute something homemade?
People are longing for homemade.**

Last year, all the marmalade and preserves sold out in the first 30 minutes and raised \$381 at only \$5 per jar! Granola also sold out quickly and raised \$300! Altogether the homemade treats and desserts raised \$2,190! Maybe a spoonful of sugar does help the medicine (or the pandemic rules) go down .
To make an offer, please contact Fran (hancockf@telus.net or call 250-477-1310



Mark Your Calendars for Zoom

Sunday Apr. 11 12:00-2:00 AMPLIFYUU Feasibility and Financial Report Discussion. Zoom room opens at 12 noon for viewing the AMPLIFY UU Video (See links below)

Sunday Apr. 18 12:00-2:00 AMPLIFYUU Special General Meeting begins at 12:30. Zoom room opens at 12 noon for watching the AMPLIFYUU video (See links below)

Our use of technology has brought some wonderful innovations to our services during the pandemic. The memorial service for Bob Van Alstyne on March 13th was not only attended by Bob's family and long-time friends in Ontario, but they were able to fully participate and reminisce. The following day at our Sunday service, we watched a child dedication and could actually see the faces of the two children and witness the ceremony close up. This is powerful stuff!

Much as most of us want to return to the sanctuary, we don't want to lose these innovations. This is why we need to gather support and funding for AmplifyUU which will give us the very best of both in-person and electronic services.

New Beginnings

AMPLIFY UU has begun with funding from the Grace Mersereau bequest and the Ruth Humphreys Innovation Fund. The sound booth, approved by our Board, is under construction to provide AV Technicians with a soundproof area to support Sunday services without disturbing the congregation.

Acoustic designers are receiving Requests for Proposals to complete the acoustical requirements for the Sanctuary that will create a higher degree of audibility. The sound baffles will be blended into the aesthetic form of our beautiful sanctuary.

The March 9 & 10th information meetings generated a number of questions which are being considered by the AMPLIFY UU Team for an FAQ to go out ahead of the information after the service on April 11 and the Special General Meeting on April 18.

The Feasibility Study for the Capital Campaign is underway, contacting about one-third of the congregation. The Feasibility Study will tell us whether now is a good time to hold a capital campaign and about how much we could expect to raise. Results will be brought to you on April 11 at 12:30.

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Please plan to attend this meeting which will include essential information for the decision to be voted on at the April 18th Special General Meeting.

For more information on AmplifyUU, including recordings of the March information sessions, check the website at [Amplify-UU | First Unitarian Church of Victoria \(victoriaunitarian.ca\)](http://Amplify-UU | First Unitarian Church of Victoria (victoriaunitarian.ca))

If you still have questions call or email John Hopewell or Marion Pape.

Zoom Links:

Apr. 11 12:00-2:00 AMPLIFYUU Feasibility and Financial Report Discussion begins at 12:30. Zoom room opens at 12 noon for viewing the AMPLIFY UU video Meeting ID: 812 2224 5054 Passcode: 618052

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81222245054?pwd=TzNzYlFCV2ZsMVZ2am5vMXQxUnhyZz09>

Apr. 18 12:00-2:00 AMPLIFYUU General Meeting begins at 12:30. Zoom room opens at 12 noon for viewing the AMPLIFY UU video.

Register in advance for this meeting: Registration closes at 12 noon on Apr. 18. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0vf-ysqzlvH9QHHTB5DwOISLPr11y_txWo



Zoom Sing – Everyone Welcome... Nancy Dobbs, Jewel Spooner

1st and 3rd Fridays of the month

April 9 and 23 * May 7 and 21 * June 4 and 18

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 for the Zoom link.



Celebration of Thanks

Vancouver Island 2021 Fundraiser for Child Haven Int.

welcoming your generous
donations

April 3, 2021
3:45 - 6 pm PDT

Free Zoom Event

No pre-registration

To Join Zoom Meeting
click the link below:

<https://zoom.us/j/99443724334>

As part of the 35th Anniversary for Child Haven International

This very special event will
include:

- a visit with Bonnie and Fred Cappuccino
- a review of Child Haven homes with Robin Cappuccino
- live and taped performances of children from Child Haven
- local musical entertainment
- interviews with Island supporters of their Child Haven experiences
- an opportunity to contribute to the costs on Child Haven's Needs List

You can also enjoy a local Indian dinner delivered to your home for the event by ordering from the following participating restaurants (request a Child Haven meal for Apr. 3rd):

Victoria - Tandoori Flavours
at 778-922-7600 (25\$ meal)
for more info call 250-217-2181

Meals must be ordered by March 26

Comox - Manvirro's Indian Grill
at 250 898 8858 (\$15 meal)
for more info call 250 338 2181

Meals must be ordered by April 1st

For more information on the
Vancouver Island Child Haven Event
contact:

Child Haven by 📞

613 527-2829 or email
cheryl@childhaven.ca

or on the Island Robin or Peter at
819-432-5997 or 819-861-2410

Covid Cash for Child Haven's Children

Covid-19 is impacting all of us here in Canada, but have you considered how people in other countries such as India, Nepal, Bangladesh and Tibet (China) are doing? Child Haven International is providing loving care for over 1,300 formerly destitute children and others in the surrounding villages who are living in impoverished circumstances.

Child Haven was formed 35 years ago by Fred and Bonnie Cappuccino of Maxville, Ontario who began by adopting 19 children from around the world. They realized a greater need and with the help of their family doctor, Dr. Nat Shah, started to build Children's Homes and hired local staff to care for, feed, clothe and educate children and teenagers in their local communities.



All face to face fundraising efforts for Child Haven were halted last year due to Covid, resulting in a great need for financial help from as many of us as possible. To help address that need, there will be a Vancouver Island Virtual Child Haven Event on zoom Saturday, April 3, from 4-6 pm PST, to thank donors for their generous support, and to celebrate the works of Child Haven on this their 35th anniversary. This event will include a live performance by the children in one of the homes in India, a taped Bamboo Dance by children in Child Haven's Bangladesh Home and an overview of the progress being made in all of the Homes by Robin Cappuccino, son of Bonnie and Fred. An invitation to this virtual event is in the attached poster, or will follow shortly.

Whilst we understand that many people have financial difficulties due to Covid, others may not. Attending fewer activities such as travel, going to cultural or sports events, eating out, etc. has probably saved you money. Perhaps you could add up what you have not spent and consider donating a percentage of this to Child Haven. Your money will make a huge difference to the lives of these children. Please consider what you would have given on previous occasions to attend a fund-raising dinner, plus your Covid savings and give generously. All donations will be eligible for a tax receipt.



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This is an initiative by Vancouver Island Unitarians and local Child Haven supporters.

Covid Cash for Child Haven's Children

Please see below for details on how to donate. For a **tax receipt** please provide your full mailing address.

Monthly donations by direct deposit are encouraged. These are a few examples of what your money can buy:

\$10 - would go to general funds

\$20 - would buy Library books

\$50 - a month's supply of fruits and vegetables for 10 children

Annual donations

\$500 would buy school note books and supplies

\$1,500 would buy monthly support for 60 Tribal children (living and education)

How to Donate

E transfer: contact cheryl@childhaven.ca for security information.

Credit card payment: phone Child Haven at 613 527 2829 **Pay Pal**

Cheque: write ID # and "need description" on cheque to Child Haven International
19014 Concession 7
Maxville, ON
KOC ITO

More information about this registered charity can be found online at www.childhaven.ca. A full list of their needs can be accessed through the How To Help/Donating tab.

All donations small and large will make an immense difference and allow you to participate in uplifting these children's lives. **Thank you!**





The Giant Book Sale is coming!

(We hope)

Please save your books until
the fall, when we know if we
can gather.

Current books in good
condition, please.

If you absolutely can't store
your books, ask your
Neighbourhood Group
for help or contact
Suellen Guenther:
sguenther@shaw.ca



"Restore Our Earth"

April is Earth Month when we are reminded to keep reducing our carbon footprint. International Earth Day is always on April 22 and last year, in 2020 the world celebrated 50 years since the beginning of the modern environmental movement of the 70's. At First Unitarian, we celebrate the earth each year by devoting a Sunday Service to restoring the earth. This year April 18th is Earth Sunday.

Ken Wu of the Endangered Ecosystem Alliance has been invited by the EAT team to deliver the Homily. He thinks we need to expand environmentalism as currently understood to engage a much larger and diverse variety of groups. This would include businesses, unions, faith groups, multicultural and outdoor groups. Such groups may already be inclined to support preserving natural ecosystems because this can also help to create new business and jobs, support outdoor recreation and spiritual regeneration etc.

With a much broader base more pressure can be brought on governments to introduce a Federal Endangered Ecosystems Act to protect all native and endangered ecosystems across the country on a much larger scale based on conservation biology principles and traditional ecological knowledge. Currently only 11% of terrestrial ecosystems in Canada are protected with a target of 30 % by 2030. This is unlikely to be adequate, especially as many protected areas are set up in remote areas with the fewest resource conflicts. The full range of biologically diverse but most contested areas must be included.

In Canada, 89% of land is publicly owned and in BC it is 95%. This means that funding must be increased to protect public land. This would support key communities linked to saving ecosystems, such as Indigenous Protected Areas proposed by First Nations across Canada, and could also leverage provincial and federal funds. For more detailed information see: <https://www.endangeredecosystemsalliance.org/>

Of current local relevance is the recent letter to the BC government from the Union of BC Indian Chiefs and other groups . . <https://www.endangeredecosystemsalliance.org/news/2021/2/25/ubcic-and-conservation-groups-ask-bc-government-for-critical-funding-for-first-nations-old-growth-protection-initiatives> Also, Greater Victoria Acting Together, of which this church is a member, is sponsoring "Tuesdays for Trees" which encourages member groups to hold educational events and actions (on Tuesdays) in support of preserving local old growth forest. Your ideas welcome!



SENĆOŦEN is the language of the W̱SÁNEĆ first nation. This 24-minute [film](#), **FINDING OUR TALK** (2001) is a fascinating account of how the written alphabet of the SENĆOŦEN language was developed and how it is helping to keep the language alive. You can also read about it [here](#).

In case you missed this recent good [news](#), there has been a historic transfer of land title to the W̱SÁNEĆ people. SISŁENEM (also known as Halibut Island), near Sidney Island, was purchased by the The Land Conservancy with private donations and transferred to the W̱SÁNEĆ Leadership Council. The return of SISŁENEM *“shows that reconciliation doesn’t have to wait for government’s lead and that we can all do our part to protect the environment and help heal the W̱SÁNEĆ people. The phrase “Land Back” is no longer a euphemism. It’s finally a reality,”* [says](#) Chief Don Tom, Tsartlip First Nation and Chairman.

In April 16, 2020, CBC Ideas aired Leanne Simpson’s 2020 Kreisel Lecture, called **The Brilliance of the Beaver**. It is worth listening to it because it represents an Indigenous way of understanding Indigenous blockades. Simpson is one of the most compelling Indigenous voices of her generation. She is a member of Alderville First Nation and teaches at the [Dechinta Centre for Research and Learning](#) in Denedeh. Her lecture focused on four stories about the Beaver — Amik — and its place in Anishnaabe worlds. Simpson demonstrates how the figure of the Beaver offers lessons in how to live connected to the world around us — through knowledge, wisdom and industriousness. Listen to her lecture [here](#)

Last reminder for this event: **Reconciliation & Resurgence a Personal Reflection** Webinar with Paulette Regan **April 14, 2021** / 12-1pm PT, presented by the Nanaimo Ladysmith Public Schools in collaboration with UBC Press and their authors. Go [HERE](#) to register. Formerly the research director for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada, and lead writer on the Reconciliation Volume of the TRC Final Report, Paulette Regan will share reflections and stories of her own decolonizing work post-TRC. Regan wrote the book "Unsettling the Settler Within," arguing that in order to truly participate in the transformative possibilities of reconciliation, non-Aboriginal Canadians must undergo their own process of decolonization. The book is available [online](#). Regan also has a more recent edited collection with Indigenous Lawyer Aimee Craft, "Pathways of Reconciliation: Indigenous and Settler Approaches to Implementing the TRC’s Calls to Action" that may be of interest. <https://uofmpress.ca/books/detail/pathways-of-reconciliation>.

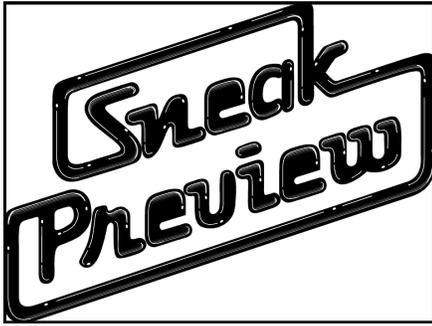


CHARITIES WANTED FOR SHARE THE PLATE

Are you looking for an opportunity to be of service to the congregation and to interact with a team of friendly and dedicated volunteers? Have you thought of Share the Plate?

We need you to suggest charities to support for the Sunday services. Do you belong to an organization that needs help? Do you already give to a charity that needs more support? Members suggest charities, the Share the Plate team approves and schedules them, and then you prepare information on the charity for the Newsletter. You can make a presentation at the Sunday service or get someone to do it for you.

Are you interested in being a member of the Share the Plate team or do you have a charity to propose? If so, please contact Jim Willis at jimwillis568@gmail.com.



Sneak Preview of Mini-Sabbatical Worship (and beyond!)

Our co-ministers, Rev. Shana and Melora Lynngood, will be on a 'mini-sabbatical' in May and June. But we've got a great line up of preachers to fill our pulpit while they are away. Below is a list of the services we have booked for May and June, as well as a listing of titles and speakers who will cover the regular Lynngood 4 week study leave and 2 week holiday. Revs. Lynngood will be back at work on Tuesday, August 10.

May 2

"Hysterical Women"

Rev. Anne Barker & Liz James

Hysteria is a word with many meanings. Uncontrollable sobbing, raucous laughter, and unmanageable women. Join us for a service that touches on and/or embodies all three.



Liz James comes from a family with a proud tradition of expressing love through practical jokes. In 2015, as a part of a practical joke gone right, she founded the UU Hysterical Society, which has grown to 70,000 members and is now part of a not for profit called Mirth and Dignity. She lives in Saskatoon, where she writes, preaches, and co-hosts the UU comedy podcast The Cracked Cup.



Rev Anne Barker was co-opted in to Liz's family's proud tradition of practical jokes. She currently works as the Minister at Westwood Unitarian Congregation, the President of the UU Ministers of Canada, and the 2021 Confluence lecturer. She lives in Edmonton where her hobbies include writing, knitting, and co-hosting the UU comedy podcast The Cracked Cup.

May 9

"Telling Our Stories"

Arran Liddel

Where Do We Come From? What Are We? Where Are We Going? Come join us for stories and music.



Arran Liddel is our Director of Spiritual Exploration and Learning for Children and Youth at First Unitarian Church of Victoria. He is also a seminary student and candidate for UU ministry.



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**May 16 “Sustaining Our Light”
National Canada-wide Sunday Service**

Now more than ever we need to be grounded in connection, in hope, and in love. We all need to tend to our spirits and our relationships so we can continue to tend to our world. This Sunday service will celebrate how our UU faith and our connections are crucial to Sustaining Our Light. (More updated description to come.)



This service will be the culmination of the CUC (Canadian Unitarian Council) Online National Conference, May 14-16. Participants are welcome to register for the whole conference or just attend the Sunday service.

Speakers will feature Unitarian Universalist clergy and lay people from across the country, along with Rev. Meghann Robern, of the First Unitarian Universalist Church of Winnipeg.

May 23 “Practicing grief: lessons for everyday life”

Asha Philar

With so much hardship around us, it is more important than ever to cultivate the active practice of grieving - finding simple ways to validate and carry our feelings of loss and sadness. Asha will share some key lessons she has learned, and skills she has developed through experiences of grief and loss, from the profound and philosophical to the silly and surprising.



Asha Philar is a lifelong Unitarian Universalist who lives in Kitchener, Ontario and works in social services, managing community support programs for families and individuals. During the pandemic, she is finding solace in cooking, gardening, playing piano and trying to make meaning out of this strange time.

May 30 “Commitment for Community Can't Be Quarantined, Nor Infected.”

Rev. Csongor Benedek, introduced by Michelle Poirier Brown

As a Unitarian minister of a small town congregation in Transylvania I will reflect on the importance of church connections—and the "accumulated need" to get back to our beloved communities again after the pandemic. I will share with you what it is like to live with this longing for community among my parishioners in Sovata, and my sense of the recovery we will see when we can come back together.



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May 30 continued...

Rev. Csongor Benedek writes:

I am a Unitarian minister in Transylvania, Romania. I have been serving all together for three and a half years as a Unitarian minister in 4 small churches (different congregations).

After graduating high school I studied English for 1 year, Geography and Tourism for 5 years (as a first degree) and then I immediately turned to Theology (my father being a Unitarian minister as well) and studied for 6 years in the Institute of the Protestant Seminary in Kolozsvár/Cluj-Napoca, Transylvania, Romania.

I visited different UU congregations in the US, I also preached in St. Paul, MN once. I feel really connected to Unitarian Universalists and their 7 principles. I am delighted to be in touch with Canadian UU's through my great friend, Michelle Poirier Brown.



June 6

“What Holds You?”

Rev. Debra Thorne

What do you name the invisible arms that hold you in the bright warmth of day and in the long dark night? What do you trust with your heart, your prayers, your secrets? What is the thought, the feeling, the knowing that you lean into when the world shivers and shakes under you? What holds you?



Rev Debra Thorne is a west coaster from birth who grew out of a theatre family and into a Unitarian family. Today she serves the Nanaimo Unitarians, after seven years with the Beacon Unitarians in New Westminster. Recently she completed three years representing Canadian UU ministers on the CUC Board.

June 13

“Transitions”

Arran Liddel

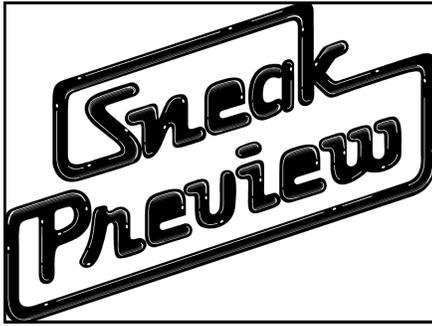
Come celebrate the individual and collective transitions that have taken place in our community over the last year.



Arran Liddel is our Director of Spiritual Exploration and Learning for Children and Youth at First Unitarian Church of Victoria. He is also a seminary student and candidate for UU ministry.



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June 20 "Anti-racism work as Spiritual Practice"

Donovan Hayden

Summer 2020 has been described as a moment of racial reckoning. Black people, along with allies, took to the streets to protest police brutality and anti-Black racism. However, with those months of intense activism behind us, those committed to social justice must ask "What do we do now?". It is easy to lose energy and purpose in the struggle against white supremacy. As Unitarians, committed to this struggle, it is important that we continue to engage and support anti-racism work through spiritual practice.



Donovan Hayden is a Black activist and artist. He is currently a MA student in Theatre & Performance Studies at York University in Toronto. He spent the last year in Pittsburgh, PA, where he participated in the Black Lives Matter protests after the killing of George Floyd. Through his experiences, Donovan has had the opportunity to engage with Unitarians and anti-racism work on both sides of the border. He remains committed to using theatre and activism to achieve black liberation and dismantle white supremacy.

June 27

"Pride and Poetry"

James Summer,

City of Victoria Youth Poet Laureate

Poetry is an amazing way to communicate our experiences and connect with others. LGBTQ+ Pride season is about expressing ourselves and being proud of who we are and who we love. We'll be joined by a very special guest, Victoria's 2021 Youth Poet Laureate James Summer, who will share some of his poetry and guide us in exploring our own creative voices.



James Summer is the 2021 Youth Poet Laureate, he has been involved with the poetry community since 2017 when he joined Victoria High Schools slam poetry club. His poetry's content contains the most raw and passionate experiences he faces. Although hard to face, James hopes that it will connect with youth around him, and that they will feel heard just as he did when he was going through high school surrounded by poets.

July 4:

Sharon Jinkerson Brass, Elder in Residence with CUC (the Canadian Unitarian Council)

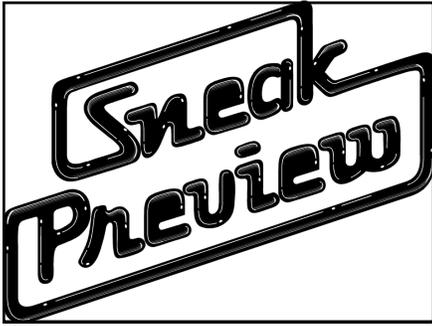
July 11:

"Holistic bodies and the physical education revolution"

Paloma Callo, former UU youth in our congregation, now completing her undergrad thesis on Modern Movement Culture and Movement as Refusal.



Continued next page



July 18:

“Sustainability and unsustainability on Vancouver Island: Coming to terms with living on an Island,”

Dr. Richard Kool, Professor, School of Environment and Sustainability, Royal Roads University

July 25:

“Money and Class”

Anna Isaacs, Member of First Unitarian Victoria

August 1: *t.b.a.*

August 8:

“Hope is Not A Method: Real Leadership in Forestry,”

Ray Travers, Forestry Consultant, RFP (Registered Forest Professional, Retired), and Congregant of First Unitarian Church of Victoria and Capital UU Congregation

August 15:

“A Death Doula’s Perspective”

Tracey Thompson, Institute of Traditional Medicine trained death doula (and daughter of church member, Glenys Thompson!)

Note: Revs. Lynngood will be back at work on Tuesday, August 10. (Having a guest preacher Aug 15 was a result of ensuring Lynngoods were in pulpit for more of March than they would have been otherwise.)



EXPLORING UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISM

AND THE COMMUNITY AT FIRST UNITARIAN VICTORIA

Sunday April 11 @ 12:30-2:30pm

For those new to the congregation or long-timers wanting to brush up on Unitarian Universalist History, the Membership Team is offering an Exploring Membership session on Zoom

on Sunday April 11 from 12:30 to 2:30pm.

For newcomers, searchers and anyone wanting to learn more, the purpose of these **online** gatherings are two-fold: sharing information about events and activities within our community so that you can discern and decide how to get involved, and to introduce you to some of the history, stories, and theology of Unitarian Universalism so that you have a sense of what is unique about our spiritual community and ways we may be similar to other congregations and communities.

This is also a time to connect with others who are new to exploring this community as well as connecting with Rev. Shana and some members of the congregation. We will outline the pathway to becoming a member or friend of the congregation.

For more information see <https://victoriaunitarian.ca/program/exploring-membership/>

Please contact Reverend Shana Lynngood at rev.shana@victoriaunitarian.ca or 250-891-6331 with your questions and wonderings.

Feel free to invite your friends !



First Unitarian Church of Victoria Fund for Indigenous Students

Dorothy Stirling

Dorothy is from the Thompson Nicola band. Her journey to Camosun began with Indigenous College prep. She is now in the Indigenous Family Studies program and her goal is to become a social worker. Dorothy is grateful to the people in her life who have given her, as she says, "the foundation to grow in a stable environment and succeed...in my school life." In her letter of reference, Dorothy is described as "always reaching forward, whether through her education or her art, to make a difference in her own life. Dorothy helps others too, by encouraging them to complete their education, to stay committed to their employment, and to be overall good community members." Well done and congratulations, Dorothy!

Tiara Glendale

Tiara is Kwakwaka'wakw, Vietnamese Canadian and belongs to the 'Namgis First Nation. She began her post secondary journey through certification in Indigenous Human Services Career and Access program and then the Indigenous Family Support program. She is now in the Indigenous Studies program and hopes to someday attain a Masters in Counselling Psychology at UVic to become an Indigenous Child Counsellor. Tiara sees her time in post-secondary as a way to "help nourish my passion, cultures, and independence so I can better serve those in the community." Congratulations, Tiara!



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
of BRITISH COLUMBIA

Parliamentary Education Office

March 10, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Stories from the Legislative Library

I am extending an invitation to two new collaborative programs offered over Zoom by the Parliamentary Education Office and the Legislative Library at the BC Parliament Buildings.

Get a close-up look at fragile, unique, and valuable artifacts in the **Treasures from the Legislative Library Vault** program, presented in one-time, 45-minute sessions on select **Wednesdays at 2:00 pm**. For our first slate of items, we have selected some of the earliest British parliamentary records (**April 7th**), annotated books belonging to early Canadian politicians (**June 23rd**), the original maces of the province of British Columbia (**October 13th**), and first editions of the novels and reporting of Charles Dickens (**December 15th**).

Or, you can register for **Documents Towards Democracy**, an hour-long journey through the political history of British Columbia as told by ten remarkable items from the Legislative Library's shelves, including early laws, signed petitions, treaty documents, and more. This program runs every **Thursday at 2:00 pm** in **March, April, September, and November**.

These programs are free of cost, but we ask that you sign up ahead of time. Please see the attached poster for specific dates and time. Reservations can be made by emailing the Parliamentary Education Office at tours@leg.bc.ca. To learn more, visit <http://www.leg.bc.ca/content-peo/Pages/special-Programs.aspx>.

I would ask you to put up the attached poster in a highly visible location within your building. Please feel free to reproduce the poster on your website or distribute copies.

Sincerely,

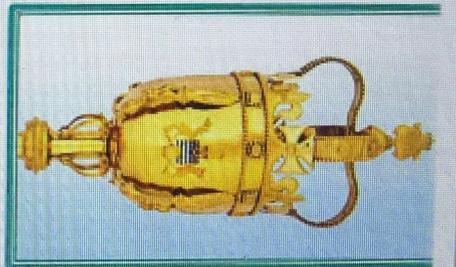
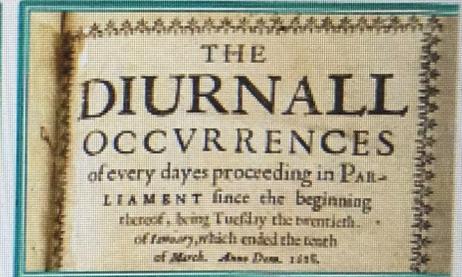
Karen L. Aitken
Director
Encls.

Room 144 Parliament Buildings
Victoria BC Canada V8V 1X4
C 250-514-4800

Stories from the Legislative Library

Join the Parliamentary Education Office and the Legislative Library for free learning programs offered over Zoom. Please book ahead by contacting tours@leg.bc.ca

- **Hansard Through The Ages:** From 17th century pamphlets to livestreams, learn about the contested history of parliamentary reporting.
April 7th, 2:00 pm. 45 minutes.
- **The Politician's Bookshelf:** Get to know some of BC's founders from the rare books in their collection.
June 23rd, 2:00 pm. 45 minutes.
- **Maces Past and Present:** Discover these key symbols of parliament's authority.
October 13th, 2:00 pm. 45 minutes.
- **Politics and Holidays of Charles Dickens:** Best known for his novels, Dickens was also a parliamentary reporter whose ideas changed Britain and Canada.
December 15th, 2:00 pm. 45 minutes.



Documents Towards Democracy: Take a trip into BC history, as told by ten remarkable items from the Legislative Library shelves.
Thursdays at 2:00 pm in March, April, September, and November. One hour.



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
of BRITISH COLUMBIA



@BCLegislature



LegislativeAssemblyBC

MEMORIES OF FLORENCE JOBSON

I first met Florence at Hillcrest School in Victoria in 1975, 45 years ago. She and her husband Keith had just moved into our Gordon Head neighbourhood with their 3 boys, Tom, John and David. We were enrolling our children for the coming school year. Tom was in the same grade as our son Paul. I soon found out that both families attended the Unitarian Church on Superior Street and it turned out that both Florence and I grew up on mixed farms on the prairies. We both went to small rural schools. We became kindred spirits.

Florence and I both enjoyed wild flower meadows and scrambled around on Gordon Point to see how many different species there were. We extended that search to many locations in the Victoria area, including pink fawn lilies near Sooke. We also made several trips, with our husbands Stu and Keith, to Hurricane Ridge on the Olympic Peninsula, USA.

Gordon Point had wonderful rocky shores with tidal pools and we would take our children there to look in the pools. Florence did a lot of different handicrafts: sewing, knitting, quilting, crocheting, and rug hooking. She encouraged me to restart my dormant quilting. I could always talk to her about any of these crafts. I learned a lot about gardening from Florence. She would talk to me about garden club meetings. Until I met her, I had never heard about garden clubs. When Stu and I moved to Sooke we joined the local garden club. Florence and Keith showed up with a trunk load of plants for our new garden in Sooke.

Florence and I shared a love of learning and this continued to the very end.

Florence was always supportive to all the work that Keith did for the church and to his work with the Indigenous people.

Florence was active in their Church- Neighbourhood: plant sales, driving neighbours to church and various church functions, and in making soup for Souper Sundays. Florence and Keith always contributed a wealth of greenery to our plant sales. Her generosity was varied and limitless.

Florence and I went to Eastern Canada together. We visited our children-- her son John and my daughter Kathryn in Toronto. Florence then visited David in Montreal and I continued on to visit my sister in Drummondville Quebec. We went with Keith and my husband Stu to Port Alberni and sailed on the Lady Rose on the Alberni Canal. The four of us also went to see the tulips in La Conner, Washington, and enjoyed other excursions closer to home.

Florence was diagnosed with advanced cancer late last year. Her son Tom was able to join the family here in Victoria over Christmas and New Year's. Florence enjoyed online virtual meetings with her daughter-in-law Rhonda (Tom) and grandchildren, Molly and Peter. She died peacefully at home with husband Keith, and sons John and David with her.

Emily Whitney



CONTACT LIST WHILE OUR MINISTERS ARE AWAY

May 1 - Aug 9, 2021

Please print and save this list

Reverends Shana and Melora Lynngood will be on a well-earned “mini-sabbatical” during the months of May and June, followed by four weeks of annual study leave and two weeks of holiday in late July and early August. They will return to work August 10th and be back in the pulpit August 22nd.

Please see the article immediately following this one for information on **Sunday services**.

While they are away the ministers will not be available, however our church has a wealth of resources to support our ongoing shared ministry. **Here’s who to call:**

1. Pastoral Listeners offer a trained, sympathetic and confidential ear to help with crises and emotional issues. (They do not, however, provide counselling.)

Liz Graham	hello.liz.graham@gmail.com	(250) 384-4351
Hanny Pannekoek	hannyhugo@shaw.ca	(250) 385-2299
Darcy Alder	darcy@growcounselling.ca	(250) 818-0419

2. Care & Concern Committee provides practical support with a caring spirit by making casseroles, phone calls and (virtual) visits. The committee is organized by Neighbourhood Groups.

* Maggie Nixon – C&C Liaison	maggien5390@gmail.com	(250) 656-5922
** Stephanie Ippen – C&C Liaison	stephanieippen@gmail.com	(250) 652-6177
*** Mary-Ellen Nicol – C&C Liaison	nicolme@yahoo.com	(250) 590-4107
**** Barbara Boyle – C&C Liaison	barbara.boyle@shaw.ca	(250) 381-0264

3. Lay Chaplains are trained and qualified to perform **rites of passage** such as weddings, child dedications and memorial services. To find out more, please contact:

Anne Vaasjo	annevaasjo70@gmail.com	(250) 385-1603
Oceanna Hall	oceanna.hall@gmail.com	(250) 886-1077
Jenny Heston	jfheston@gmail.com	1-(250) 509-1240

4. Dispute Management volunteers can help anyone experiencing difficulty in their relationships with other church members or groups while working on church-related matters. A solution-focussed process will invite participants to co-create ideas that lead to a successful outcome.

Steve Sharlow	sharlowsteve@yahoo.ca	(250) 514-4919
Jan Thomson	aurora2u@telus.net	(250) 480-1462
Bill Glassman	glassman@ryerson.ca	(250) 595-6990

Continued next page

5. The Committee on Ministry helps foster congregational health by facilitating communication between the congregation and our ministers. The committee acts as a clearinghouse for questions and feedback in the ministers' absence. Do you have a question or a concern, or do you need help and don't know who to call? Call us and we will help you find the resources to address your concerns.

Lorna Anthony	lranthony@shaw.ca	(250) 592-4831
Jeri Dause	jkdause@gmail.com	(250) 384-4530
Bill Glassman	glassman@ryerson.ca	(250) 595-6990
Andy Lee, Chair	andrew.lee@firley.ca	(250) 858-5155
Shelley Motz	shelley.motz@shaw.ca	(250) 388-0654
Jan Thomson	aurora2u@telus.net	(250) 480-1462

6. The Board of Trustees can answer your questions about the ongoing governance of the church.

President	Steve Sharlow	sharlowsteve@yahoo.ca
VP & Outreach Council Chair	Jim Willis	jimwillis568@gmail.com
Treasurer	Kristina Stevens	kristina-stevens@gmail.com
Secretary	Audrey Taylor	audrey_t@telus.net
Past President	Marion Pape	marionpape@shaw.ca
Property Council	Peter Hancock	hancockp@telus.net
Congregational Life Council	Katherine Maas	katherine@kjmaas.com
Finance Council	Bruce Nicol	brucenicol@inbox.com
Spiritual Development Council	Wally du Temple	wallydutemple@telus.net

ABOUT SABBATICALS A sabbatical is a period of rest and renewal, allowing our ministers an opportunity to do some deep study and reflection, learn new skills, and renew their energies. As a condition of their employment our ministers earn one month sabbatical leave for each year of service to the church. While our ministers are away the congregation can experience again the fact that the church isn't just the ministers, nor is it the building; it is the people – the community we form and the work we do together to make our mission a reality.



FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF VICTORIA

5575 West Saanich Road • Victoria BC • V9E 2G1

www.victoriaunitarian.ca

churchoffice@victoriaunitarian.ca

250-744-2665

STAFF, BOARD EXECUTIVE, COUNCIL CHAIRS, C & C COMMITTEE

MINISTERS

Reverend Melora Lynngood

Cell: 250-891-6330

rev.melora@victoriaunitarian.ca

Reverend Shana Lynngood

Cell: 250-891-6331

rev.shana@victoriaunitarian.ca

Minister Emerita

Reverend Jane Bramadat

(250) 419-4148

LAY CHAPLAINS

laychaplains@victoriaunitarian.ca

Jenny Heston 250-509-1240

Anne Vaasjo 250-385-1603

Oceanna Hall 250-88-6-1077

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!

DIRECTOR OF SPIRITUAL EXPLORATION AND LEARNING FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Arran Liddel 250-744-2695

arran@victoriaunitarian.ca

Continued next page

Continued from previous page

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Nick Fairbank
music@victoriaunitarian.ca

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR

Niki Mullin
250-744-2665
fucv.churchoffice@gmail.com churchoffice@victoriaunitarian.ca

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Shannon Oatway
250-744-2665
fucv.communications@gmail.com communications@victoriaunitarian.ca

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sharlowsteve@yahoo.ca

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Marion Pape
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Audrey Taylor
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audrey_t@telus.net

Congregational Life
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katherine@kjmaas.com

Outreach SRC
Jim Willis
jimwillis568@gmail.com

Property
Peter Hancock
hancockp@telus.net

Spiritual Development
Wally du Temple
wallydutemple@telus.net

CARE AND CONCERN COMMITTEE

We Care!
for hospital and home visits,
or just to talk...

Barbara Boyle
250-381-0264

or your Neighbourhood
Group Care and
Concern person



CALENDAR:

[CLICK HERE](#)

CHANGES

Florence Jobson — Deceased Feb.17, 2021

**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...:*



- Where possible we use Calibri font.
- One space between sentences and between lines.
- No pdf files, please, use Word.
- Send pictures in jpegs... Don't send text as jpegs.



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

First Name	Last Name	Birthdate
		Month/Day
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
Nokuthula	Porcher	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
Gisele	Bentley	April 22
Barbara	Boyle	April 24
Catherine	Cardinal	April 24
Chris	Cook	April 25
Leslie	O'Hagan	April 25
LeAnn	Andersen	April 28
Jamie	Van Gessel	April 28
Erin	Kinrade	April 30

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



**island
montessori**
A local non-profit for all children (Since 1973)

Accepting Enrollment
Book Now for a Tour!

- preschool to grade 2
- before and after school care
- small class sizes
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- Kodaly music program
- lovely rural location connecting children to nature

5575 West Saanich Rd (across from Red Barn Market)
250 592 4411 info@islandmontessori.net
www.islandmontessori.com

Help wanted: We are looking for someone, preferably female, to take Laura to the Panorama rec, centre once a week and help her with her water walking and exercise routine. Will pay \$25 an hour (approx. 3 hours per session) or will donate the money to the church in your name. Call Nellie for details. Nellie and Laura at 778 426-0300

JAM JARS WANTED!

Do you have some 250 ml. size jam jars you don't need? I will need some to use for this year's auction. If you have some I could have, I'd be happy to pick them up.

Please contact me at 250-853-7439, or karfurma@gmail.com.

Thanks! Karen Furnes



Masks - new & improved

When I started sewing the first masks in March, I held the optimistic view that they would be a temporary attire, a distant memory by the end of the year.

Now, we all realize that masks will be an accessory to our wardrobe for some time to come.

So, if you are tired of your old one and feel like upgrading to a new improved three layer model in fun patterns, let me know!



Astrid



WANTED:
\$3,000 month / 4-bedroom
housing for a larger
family (Victoria/Saanich)

Looking for a 4-bedroom rental in Victoria or Saanich for a lovely, respectful family that has recently arrived here as asylum-class refugees.

This Syrian family came to Victoria the long way (through multiple countries and unstable living situations) and are happy to finally settle somewhere they can flourish. Since settling, they have found stable work, schooling, and community in Victoria. They are looking for a long-term accommodation that will help them move forward with their lives here.

This notice has been posted by the family's refugee sponsorship group, whose responsibility it is to support the family's transition during their first year in Victoria.

Thank you so much for reading.

Sincerely,
The family and their supporters

Please contact Deb Rutman (drutman@uvic.ca) or Hope Hickli (ahopeh@outlook.com) if you know of a possible home rental or have questions.

The First Unitarian Church of Victoria
5575 West Saanich Road
Victoria, BC V9E 2G1

Phone: 250-744-2665
E-mail: churchoffice@victoriaunitarian.ca
www.victoriaunitarian.ca

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Canadian Publications Mail
Sales Product Agreement No. 40010260

Easter Party! April 4 @ Noon



You are invited to an all ages Party on Zoom to celebrate Easter. You are welcome to invite family and friends from any geographic location to register too and join you at the party.

You are welcome to attend in your PJs or dress up if you feel like it! We'll have party games, stories, music, and a dance party!

THE VICTORIA UNITARIAN

is the monthly publication of the
First Unitarian Church of Victoria.

The **deadline** for submissions to
the **May** issue is **April 15**.
Copy should be sent to
newsletter@victoriaunitarian.ca.



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

Staff: Barbara Nyland and Jen Young (editors); Shannon
Oatway printing and distribution; paid advertisements Niki
Mullin - at **churchoffice@victoriaunitarian.ca**