



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

**SERVICES IN DECEMBER 2021**

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

**\*\*Some services in December are in-person, while some are Zoom only. Check e-weekly to confirm.\*\***

We continue to take Covid precautions. Based on BC guidelines and on our congregational survey telling us your comfort level, our current agreements are to have:

- ages 12 and up double vaccinated
- ages 5 and up wear masks covering nose and mouth while indoors
- maintain 6 feet distance where possible
- for now, no congregational singing, but we can hum along
- singers and speakers are at least 15 feet away from the first row



**Sunday, December 5, 10:30am**

*We Are Joyful*

Anna Isaacs, Acting Director of Spiritual Exploration and Learning for Children and Youth, homilist

Casey Stainsby, worship associate

**In-Person and Online Zoom Service**

Sign up for seats in the sanctuary for in person services: <https://rsvp.church/r/uYZwZfyw>

Sharing music and stories grows the joy in our relationships. Get to know and care for the staff that care for our families. Reflect on what brings you joy in creative time spent together with others as we begin another unique holiday season.

Bio: Bios for staff Marissa, Maya, Fantasy & Nolan [here](#) at [bit.ly/fucvfamilystaff](http://bit.ly/fucvfamilystaff)

**Sunday, December 12, 10:30am**

*Opening to Joy*

Rev. Melora Lynngood, homilist

Victoria Barr, worship associate

**ONLINE ZOOM ONLY**

(Sanctuary closed for UU Amplify Construction; everyone joins on Zoom)

This month's theme is 'opening to joy.' Sometimes joy comes naturally; sometimes finding joy feels like a challenge. Today, we look at the practice of opening to joy, even when life is hard.

Livestream begins each Sunday by 10:25 am.  
view [please click on this link.](#)

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**Sunday, December 19, 10:30am**

*Softening*

Rev. Shana Lynngood, homilist

Fran Pardee, worship associate

**ONLINE ZOOM ONLY**

(Sanctuary closed for UU Amplify Construction; everyone joins on Zoom)

As our Christian neighbours conclude the season of advent, a time of preparation for the arrival of the baby Jesus, we reflect on what it takes to be aware of, and open to the ways which we can experience this season as magical. Opening to joy and keeping faith can hold similar qualities. After so much time isolated, are we still open to the holiday story? To one another? To possibility? And where does joy factor in?

**Tuesday, December 21, 5:00pm**

*Winter Quiet Solstice Ritual*

Anna Isaacs, Acting Director of Spiritual Exploration and Learning for Children and Youth, homilist

Lynne Bonner, worship associate

**IN PERSON ONLY**

Sign up for seats in the sanctuary for in person services: <https://rsvp.church/r/uYZwZfyw>

A simple candlelit ritual with music to honour the solstice and join in a peaceful pause.

**Friday, December 24, 4:30pm**

Rev. Shana Lynngood, homilist

Victoria Barr, worship associate

**In-Person and Online Livestream Service**

Sign up for seats in the sanctuary for in person services: <https://rsvp.church/r/uYZwZfyw>

Our annual inter-generational celebration of Christmas Eve will be both in person and on livestream. What joy can the age-old story conjure in us this year? Can a sense of “joy to the world” be found after so much time in the wilderness of loss and separation? Let us find the joy of the season together.

**Sunday, December 26, 11:00am**

*Boxing Day Virtual Visit to Vancouver UU!*

Vancouver UU, Sarah Kennedy, homilist

**ONLINE ONLY**

(YouTube for service, then Zoom for small group conversation)

The Vancouver Unitarians have invited us to join them on YouTube for their Boxing Day service, featuring the spoken reflections and music of jazz singer, Sarah Kennedy.

At 11am, click here to join the service: <http://ucv.im/live>

(If you are reading a paper copy of this newsletter, the service can be viewed by going to the Vancouver Unitarians website at <https://vancouverunitarians.ca/>, click on ‘worship’ and then ‘future services.’

Or: <https://vancouverunitarians.ca/worship-service/future-worship-services/> )

After the service, join fellow Victoria Congregants for small group conversation in our own First Unitarian Church of Victoria Zoom room. Link will be in e-weekly.



As we prepare for the winter holidays this year, we do so in need of its vision of hope and possibility, comfort and joy. Our theme this month invites us to consider how we create space for joy. The sense of space we think of spiritually is not just about space in our calendars, but space in our beings. As with many things, we often think that joy just happens. Joy is or it isn't. We experience it or we don't. We also know from many life moments, however, that we can be more or less open to joy. How we enter a situation, a relationship, a meeting, or a conversation—can have a significant impact on how it goes. How might you be or feel open to joy this month? Is there a dimension or aspect of the holiday season that speaks to you? Are there rituals or things you can do that “...let every heart, prepare...room” as the carol invites? As we gather, in person or online this month may joy find you.

**Here are some of the questions to ponder from Soul Matters:**

1. Who or what helps you see the joy in front of you?
2. Has joy surprised you during Covid?
3. How has your definition of joy changed over time?
4. Are you more often a creator of joy, receiver of joy, notice-er of joy or spreader of joy?
5. Are there obstacles in your life that you might need to remove in order for joy to expand, or return?
6. When was the last time you did something “useless” or “purposeless”? Might joy be found there?
7. What if joy can come from joining our sorrows?

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## 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: Bill Glassman Chair, Lorna Anthony, David Vest, Lynn Hunter, and Jan Thomson.

### KEYS: REMINDER FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

In order to be available for others requiring access, please replace any lockbox keys being used, immediately.  
(Sanctuary and Farmhouse)

These keys are not to be held on your person while in meetings or for the duration of your visit.

Thank you for understanding!

*Niki Mullin*

*Office Administrator*



I want to introduce the amazing kids program staff who will bring us joy through music and stories Dec 5th for intergen worship and who bring joy into the lives of our kids and families all year. I hope you are able to get to know them and their wonderful talents better.

**Marissa, Program Leader**

I have been a SELCY program leader at FUCV for just over two years now. I am so excited to be going back in person to learn and grow with the children! A bit about me: you may know me from PNW UU online summer camps in 2020 and 2021, as I developed and lead Minecraft camps both years and assisted with Wizarding camp. My role at the church over the last year and a half has mainly been writing, developing, and facilitating children's UU curriculums over Minecraft. Originally from Calgary, I moved to Victoria in 2015 to start my undergraduate degree and I am now in my first year of my Masters at UVic in Educational Psychology. In my off time, I love to go on nature walks, play music, and spend time at the beach.

**Maya, Program Leader**

Maya moved to Victoria and joined FUCV in 2020. She has worked with kids in summer camps as well as in online tutoring settings. Her favorite animal is the harbor seal and she likes to spend her time making pottery, knitting, baking bread, hiking, and playing banjo.

**Fantasy, Program Assistant**

I'm a 17 year old video production student; and I love everything to do with the ocean- especially jellyfish. I look forward to meeting all of you and your young ones!

**Nolan, Program Assistant**

I am currently a grade 11 high school student and live in Sooke with my family. I have been a member of the UU congregation for about 10 years now. Music is a huge part of my life; I enjoy spending my time creating music with various instruments, including guitar, cello, banjo, drums and more. After graduation, I hope to seek higher education and pursue music of some form as a career.



# Annual Budget Campaign Progress Report



*Thank you!*

In the month of November, our finance committee and board have been hard at work creating a budget for 2022. This budget will be brought to the congregation in January for approval.

Deep appreciation to all who have pledged both large and small amounts. A budget couldn't be planned without you. Your pledge also demonstrates your continued connection and support to our congregation.

Our goal for the 2022 is \$310,000. This is still possible. If you have not yet pledged, please go to our website <https://victoriaunitarian.ca/> and look under "News" or call Nancy Dobbs 250 652 5438 or email [nandobbs@telus.net](mailto:nandobbs@telus.net).



# SAVE THE DATE

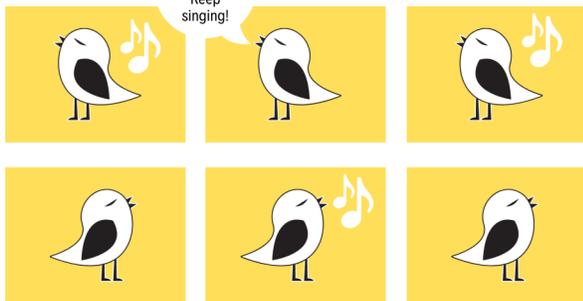
Saturday  
December 11  
at 7pm

## Winter Coffee House

Chalice Choir presents an online Winter Coffee House  
and holiday sing along.

Music to lift your spirits and raise Food Bank funds.  
Donate before, during and after.

The link will be in the December 9th E-Weekly



Zoom Sing – Everyone Welcome

Friday 3:30- 4:30

December 10

Jewel Spooner, Nancy Dobbs with our tech  
support, Bernhard Spalteholz

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.

Please email Nancy Dobbs [nandobbs@telus.net](mailto:nandobbs@telus.net) for a Zoom link.

The Syrian refugee family sponsored by FUCV and newly arrived via Jordan on October 7 is settling in very well to their new home and community. Mohammad, Fatemah and their 18 year-old son, Abdulrahman, have been happily welcoming visiting Unitarian volunteers with cups of delicious Syrian coffee and sweets.

Church members have generously donated a bicycle and two laptops for the family's use. Abdulrahman is being helped to apply for ESL studies at Camosun College and a computer will support him in these efforts while the bicycle will help him with transportation (he is a keen biker). Another lovely gift has been a pot of Peace Lilies from one church plant lover to Fatemah who is very fond of greenery in her home.

As we move towards the second month that Mohammad, Fatemah and Abdulrahman have spent in Canada, we are pleased to report that two city dentists have kindly volunteered to work pro bono with them and an MD has agreed to accept the family as patients. Church volunteers will also assist them to receive their flu shots while three members from FUCV and Capital are organizing English conversation sessions.

Busy times !



## CELEBRATING OUR NEW 25 YEAR MEMBERS

### **Karen Furnes**

Karen started attending the Unitarian Church of Vancouver children's program at age six, when parents Penny and Ted Furnes joined the church. She was a member of the Victoria church in James Bay from 1983 until 1985, when she moved to Port McNeill. She rejoined First Unitarian after returning to Victoria in 1995.

Karen has served on the Human Resources Committee, the Memorial Gardens Advisory Committee, and two terms on the Board of Trustees. She was a member of the Interim Minister Task Force in 2009. Karen was part of the Sunday morning coffee and hospitality group and helped prepare meals for Sandy Merriman House before COVID hit. She also helped organize the Book and Bake Sale in 2018 and 2019.

Karen has sung with the Chalice Choir for 25 years, and with a number of other smaller choirs and ensembles in the church. She is a member of the Farmhouse Ringers handbell choir, and has been an assessor with the Lifeline List project for the last five years. She has been a member of a Chalice Circle discussion group for the past eight years.



### **Bill & Judy Gaylord**

Bill and Judy first became involved in Unitarianism through the church in Vancouver, and were married by one of the ministers in 1969. Our initial involvement was due to the churches very proactive role in assisting American war resisters, and Bill was even employed by the church for a while to help them find work.

After moving to Victoria in 1993 we eventually checked out the church on Superior St, but didn't actually join until after the move to West Saanich Rd.

Judy was very pleased to find a very large and active Social Responsibility Committee. In those days the SRC banner was always to be seen at rallies and marches covering a huge range of social and environmental issues, especially the annual Peace Walk which later became Earth Walk. Many congregation members also used to come out in support.

After a stint as chair of the SRC she became more involved in the Environmental Action Team, which tackled a range of issues including local action such as improving the church bike parking. A highlight was Rev Shana performing a Blessing of the Bicycles when we opened the new shed!



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These activities remained the main components of our volunteer activities until recent years when health issues have limited our participation. We also have fond memories of the Learning Circle and some of the adult RE programs we attended which encouraged us to define and clarify our personal beliefs.

### **Rosemary Harrison**

I was raised Anglican but stopped attending when I was going through the confirmation program as a teen and felt uncomfortable with the underlying message I heard ‘everyone is equal and treat everyone the same (but, we’re just a little bit better because we’re Anglican)’.

I first heard about the UU church from my mother -in- law, Lorna Harrison. So, when we had kids and I was searching for a faith group, I decided to check it out. It felt like a great fit from the very beginning. When I first attended the church was situated in James Bay and we lived on the Westshore. I found it challenging to get four preschool kids ready for church each Sunday morning and it didn’t help that my husband resented me rushing around on one of his only days off so it was just easier to put that on hold after a few years.

A few years later after we moved to the peninsula I was thrilled to hear that the church was relocating and would be closer to our home. That was 25 years ago now. Wow, time flies.

My first commitment was teaching Religious Education “RE” back when Stephanie Ippen was Director. I also served on the RE Committee and one of our main focuses was trying find ways that would encourage kids to feel more connected to the church. At the time services were held in what is now Lion Hall and there just wasn’t room for kids to be included. We worked hard to find ways to have them experience at least part of a service which was the beginning steps of the format we have today.

After my kids no longer came with me I joined the choir where I served on the Music Committee for 5 or 6 years, followed by a short stint on the board, I helped Hanny and Hugo serve coffee after church and was involved twice as a ‘leader’ and once as a participant in Soul Matters. I am currently an apprentice Worship Associate.

Of the many programs I have been involved with over the years, a few that stick out for me were “Unplugging the Christmas Machine” and “Awakening Joy” and cooking/baking for “Out of the Rain”.

I have learned a lot, met a lot of wonderful people and been inspired to grow during my membership.



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### **Bert McBain**

I grew up in Toronto. My mother took me to the United church, but she was searching for something else, so we went, then, to a Baptist church. In fact, my brother became a Baptist Minister. As an adult, I realized that I had stopped believing in what the church was telling us and when I saw something about the Unitarian Church in the newspaper, I decided to try it.

When my husband, Bob, and I moved to Victoria in 1996 we joined this church.

In Toronto I worked as an assistant to a lawyer who specialized in real estate litigation.

I continued with that work in a law firm here when we moved to Victoria.

When Van Knight was Minister, I worked as the Administrator in the Church office.

It was a job I really enjoyed. I liked talking to people and getting to know them. But there was a lot of work to be done and I had to balance it.

I was very active in the SRC. At one point I was secretary. And I participated in many walks to support SRC causes.



### **Diane McLaren**

The first Unitarian Church I joined was in Don Mills, Ontario. After moving to Edmonton, I joined the church there and then the Unitarian Church in London, Ontario. I had grown up Presbyterian but I was drawn to Unitarianism because I was hearing a new message when I went to the services. I got very involved in Peace Movement in the 60ies and was very active in the 'Voice of Women'.

When I came to Victoria, I continued that involvement. I joined SRC and worked on social justice issues. I also worked on the Church Board for a time.

I was a teacher in Ontario and Alberta. I lived in Zambia for four years, joined CUSO and taught there. I also taught for two years through VSO when I was living in Egypt.

Since retirement I have travelled for three months every winter. I have great memories of spending time in India, Thailand, Burma, Cambodia and Laos.



## Indigenous Matters: Truth and Reconciliation Commission “Calls to Action”

In light of the discovery of neglected graves of Indigenous children at Canadian residential schools, many people are looking to the “Calls to Action” of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) to find ways of being part of the reconciliation process that needs to happen for all of us.

The existence of the residential school gravesites was known to Indigenous Peoples and addressed by the TRC. A six-volume report, “Canada’s Residential Schools,” documents the history and legacy of residential schools, missing children and unmarked burials. You can read the Commission’s 94 [Calls to Action](#) yourself. Recommendations 71-76 address residential school gravesites. You can also order a [small booklet](#) listing these “Calls to Action” for yourself at a very small cost.

In its 2021 [Annual Report](#) the BC Treaty Commission described this province’s implementation of the TRC Calls to Action. It’s important to hold governments to account in implementing the TRC Calls to Action and other commitments they have made, but individuals can also take action themselves. Here is a useful [lecture](#) on steps that can be taken by ordinary citizens to develop practices of reconciliation that are informed, and grounded in practical and collaborative action.

Finally, one of the 94 TRC recommendations called on signatory churches to formally repudiate the Doctrine of Discovery, which continues to have repercussions for settlers and Indigenous people. Members of the Truth, Healing and Reconciliation UU (THRUU) team will offer another chance to participate in a study group to examine the Doctrine of Discovery and its long-lasting implications, sometime in the new year (2022). Look forward to the details in this newsletter and the e-weekly in the new year. If you would like to be placed on a wait list for this study group, or if you have questions, call or e-mail Evelyn Peters (778265.5270 or [Evelyn.Joy.Peters@outlook.com](mailto:Evelyn.Joy.Peters@outlook.com)).



### Installation is Coming Soon

Our new AV equipment is scheduled to be installed in the sanctuary December 8 – 17<sup>th</sup>. The four-camera system, high quality podium mic, piano mics, choir mics, projector and screen will be installed, so we will be ready to deliver high quality and less complex hybrid services, on Zoom and in the sanctuary. Supply chain problems mean a delay in receiving cordless mics, lighting components and digital interconnectivity. Installation of lighting will be delayed until we have five consecutive days without renters in the sanctuary next year. Acoustic panels will be installed December 28 – January 7<sup>th</sup>.

Training of AV volunteers is beginning with a two-hour video they can view at home. This will be followed up with a Zoom session, prior to hands-on training beginning December 17<sup>th</sup>.

And a gentle reminder to make your 2021 Capital Campaign contribution as soon as possible. If you already did that, thank you!



## GVAT Driving Toward its Founding Assembly

GVAT (Greater Victoria Acting Together for the common good) is driving hard toward its Founding Assembly, the first General Assembly of many to follow!

General Assemblies are where people with power to make change are asked to confirm before multitudes of thousands—well, a couple of hundred, anyway—that they will confirm promises they have made. People with power make promises with ease, but are not always good at carrying them out. Prior to a General Assembly, therefore, representatives of the three Action Research Teams will meet with those with power to agree on what those with power *really* can do. Then at the Assembly those with power are asked to re-confirm their promises before the hundreds of witnesses present (including some of you from our congregation).

Much work must be done before GVAT and its Action Research Teams (ARTs) reach this point. Over the past three years, members of the Climate ART, for example, have interviewed city and municipal councillors, Members of the Legislative Assembly, heads of development companies, and others to understand their objectives, concerns, and roadblocks. Climate ART members have also made presentations at city and municipal council meetings. They then assessed and discussed what they had learned, and chose six actions they thought were important according to ten criteria. They will discuss these six items with those with power, who will then be asked at the Founding Assembly to reconfirm what they have promised they can do.

Here are six actions that the Climate ART has considered asking those with power to perform:

- 1) Accept the Green New Deal for Forestry and replace Old Growth Logging with increased sustainable forestry practices. (Assessment score: 13+.)
- 2) Re-allocate road space from cars to buses, bicycles, pedestrians..., thereby reducing car traffic and GHG (Green House Gas) pollution (13+).
- 3) Reallocate funding from highway and airport expansion to more healthy means of transport (14+).
- 4) Allow more housing of various sorts (affordable, supportive) near public transport stops (12+).
- 5) Reallocate highway expansion funding to bus and passenger rail service (9+).
- 6) Reallocate road space in Victoria and other municipalities to more bus lanes (14+).

These assessments may change with further research and consideration, so now it's *your* chance to say what *you* think might be done in Greater Victoria to improve people's health and survival during the next few decades of climate emergency. Send your suggestions to Lynn Beak or Philip Symons. We'll forward these, as appropriate, to a GVAT ART for consideration. We want to hear from you!

**Lynn Beak**

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

250 598-3584



**Philip Symons**

[philmar@islandnet.com](mailto:philmar@islandnet.com)

250 592-6484



## SHARE THE PLATE.

*For the month of December, as is our tradition, we have two recipients for our Share the Plate collections: Bridges for Women Society and the Dandelion Society.*



**Bridges for Women Society** has been changing women's lives since 1988.

Our five Founding Mothers saw that in order for women to move forward in their lives after trauma, neglect, or abuse, they needed to understand how the trauma was holding them back and also that financial security was integral to the healing process. They saw women returning to unhealthy relationships because they could not sustain themselves financially.

Our six-month program is two-fold. First, the women look at how trauma has affected them and develop tools for working with their own history of trauma. Secondly, they explore careers and learn work-search tools through a trauma-informed lens. We also provide professional one-to-one counselling support.

Our fundamental belief is that women are capable, resourceful, and resilient. Our program is built on a strengths-based model, which can be challenging since trauma erodes confidence. Initially, women often don't believe they have any strengths. We point out that survival is a strength.

We do this work with a spirit of non-judgment. Women who experience abuse and neglect have internalized the criticism. Shame is a byproduct of abuse. As we work with clients on self-acceptance and belief in themselves, the shame diminishes.

The way out of trauma is connectedness. What clients say about their experience at the end of the program is that they no longer feel alone or to blame for the abuse. This is what one woman said about her experience at Bridges, "Trauma doesn't define me. I can do this, and I am worth it. I am an asset to whoever I work for."



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### **Dandelion Street Outreach -- Our Place**

Every December we give to the challenged in our local community. Although Rev. Al has retired, three staff at Our Place are carrying on his calling – his mission to assist those who have fallen thro' the cracks. Dandelion tries to bring hope to the homeless. Rev Al has spoken twice at one of our services, as a memorable "saint of the streets". This meets a gap in Victoria 's services.

Dandelion Street Outreach – Our Place continues to do this work on the streets, in the hospitals and in jails, wherever the homeless are found. The people they serve hopefully feel loved and appreciated. The team starts early (6.30 A.M.) with hot coffee and muffins and a friendly offer to help with any emergency. But it takes two or three to replace Rev. Al – namely Kim, Kai and Jordan– all trained by the son of Rev. Al.

Financial needs include the upkeep of the outreach van that needed new brakes. Of their former 3000 donors, not all have donated to the Dandelion Street Outreach restricted fund so far, so UU donations will be very important to carry on this program into 2022! Spread the word that the creation of Rev. Al lives on!

Warm blankets that you no longer need; and sleeping bags and tents are still very much appreciated. Warm socks, new underwear, gloves and men's jackets too. Take to Our Place at 919 Pandora or call Christine Johnston (250-385-5444) who will see they get delivered.

## An easy way to contribute to Child Haven International

Church member Terry Czyz has set up an ongoing account at the Bottle Depot in the name of Child Haven International. We can all contribute to this:

Take your empty beverage containers to A Return It Bottle Depot close to you. You do not even have to sort them, just deliver them in a bag and mention that the money is to go to the Child Haven International account.

Once a month The Bottle Depot will send a cheque to Terry, who will pass it on to the office of Child Haven.

A good deal all around: you will get rid of your empties in a very easy and environmentally responsible way, for the benefit of Child Haven.

Three locations: 4261 Glanford Avenue - 655 Queens Avenue - 3961 Quadra Street  
All locations are open daily 9 am till 5 pm. Plenty of parking. Tel. 250-727-7480

Thank you for your support,  
Hanny



## Refugees in Victoria Need Your Help to Find Housing

The Inter-Cultural Association of Greater Victoria (ICA) advises that the extreme shortage of affordable housing in Greater Victoria is one of the greatest barriers to successfully resettling refugees in our community.

With the developing crisis in Afghanistan, Canada will be welcoming many more refugees than originally anticipated and although we won't initially see refugees directly from Afghanistan, Greater Victoria will be taking more Government Sponsored Refugees from other countries to help open spaces in other cities for those coming from Afghanistan.

But to do this ICA needs your help to find suitable housing for these families!

If you have a suite that you can rent or know of any suitable, safe housing opportunities that may not be currently available on the market, please contact ICA:

**Nahla Alsayah, RAP Coordinator**

**Email: [nalsayah@icavictoria.org](mailto:nalsayah@icavictoria.org)**

**Phone: (250) 388-4728 Ext. 152**



## ***THE CAPITAL UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION***

*Meetings at: New Horizons Seniors Centre, 234 Menzies Street.*

*Mailing Address: Suite 559, 185 – 911 Yates Street*

*Victoria, B.C. V8V 4Y9*

*Telephone: (250) 658-3765*

*E-mail address: [contact.capital@unitariancongregation.org](mailto:contact.capital@unitariancongregation.org)*

*Web site: <http://www.unitariancongregation.org/victoria/>*



### **Director of Sunday Service Committee**

In conjunction with members of the Sunday Service Committee (SSC), and the Director of Congregational Life, the SSC Director will ensure speakers are secured for weekly Sunday services that fit within the scope of interests and topics outlined by congregants, members of the SSC and the Board of Directors, henceforth the Board.

The tasks below can typically fit within 12-15 hours per month. All tasks can be done remotely. We are hoping to find a candidate to start Jan 1 2022, our Interim SSC Director will mentor the successful applicant for up to three months. The Director will strive to address the diverse interests of congregants at Capital when choosing speakers for Sunday services.

#### **SSC Director Duties:**

Schedules and attends monthly meetings.

Provides direction, support and leadership to committee members in the planning and delivery of regular Sunday services.

Creates and distributes meeting agendas (the week before the SSC meeting) and minutes (as soon as they are ready.) Updates SSC Google documents and sheets including email templates, coordinator scripts, and the Sunday schedule as needed.

Develops a schedule for the year with the goal of three to four months planning from the date of the SSC Meeting completed at all times. The schedule should include dates of services held annually, such as: Capital's Birthday (March), Water/Flower Communion, new/retiring lay chaplain ceremony, interfaith, special days of celebration and so on.

Ensures all speakers and coordinators receive the template intro email as early as possible in the month prior to their Sunday, often immediately following the monthly meeting (except early June for July speaker.)

Supports the recruiting and training of service coordinators to ensure efficient and effective service delivery.

By the 20th of each month, ensures monthly Sunday schedule details are complete and accurate for the following month (except Apr. 20th for May schedule).

Maintains a current list of possible speakers already approved by the SSC, or awaiting approval of the SSC, as well as their contact information. Develops and maintains a register of external speakers from various sources; eg. UVic speakers; affiliated Unitarian organizations and personnel; interfaith speakers, local federal, provincial and civic figures whose homilies can be broad based in keeping with environmental, social justice and other interests of the congregation. Committee members will be assisting the Director in this work.

Communicates with FUCV to schedule the 'pulpit exchange' dates for the upcoming year.

Ensures 'sermon in a box' (Tab in Google Sheet Sunday Service Document) contains 1-3 readable sermons in the event of a last-minute cancellation by either an external or internal speaker.

Receives congregational feedback with regard to Sunday Services and is prepared to discuss or recommend follow-up action.

Coordinates Sunday services on a regular basis with a minimum of one service per quarter being required.

Manages the committee budget as determined in consultation with the Board annually. Reports variances to the budget to the Board, requesting its approval. The SSC Director will assume the previous year's budget unless otherwise directed by the Board.

Whenever possible, mentors and provides shadow training to the incoming Director in their new role as part of the transition process. Performs other duties or special projects as assigned.

Please contact **Amanda Tarling, Director of Congregational Life**, for further information: [tarling@shaw.ca](mailto:tarling@shaw.ca) **250 418-0887**

## CALENDAR:

[CLICK HERE](#)

## New Members

## 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.



## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

First Name	Last Name	Birthdate
Michael	Greenly	December 01
Victoria	Barr	December 04
Daphne	Horne	December 04
Keith	Jobson	December 04
Dawn	Fizzard	December 05
Michael	Eckford	December 06
James	Willis	December 06
John	Dalgety	December 07
Liz	Graham	December 07
Cheryl	Hall	December 08
Johanna	Billung-Meyer	December 09
Laura	Doyle	December 09
Nancy	Dobbs	December 10
Kathryn	Harwood	December 10
Anne	Bowers	December 11
Lesley	Duthie	December 11
Dorothy	Jones	December 12
Mohammad	Banaee	December 14
Rowena	Locklin	December 15
Penny	Boyce	December 17
Valerie	Howe	December 17
Carol	Riseing	December 17
James	Jordan	December 18
Rosemary	Harrison	December 20
Gloria	Hopewell	December 21
Paula	Steele	December 21
Archie	McGugan	December 22
Ruth	Welburn	December 23
Christina	Harris	December 27
Alan	Boyle	December 30
Deanna	Hutchings	December 30



# FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF VICTORIA

5575 West Saanich Road • Victoria BC • V9E 2G1

[www.victoriaunitarian.ca](http://www.victoriaunitarian.ca)

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

250-744-2665

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

## MINISTERS

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Cell: 250-891-6330

[rev.melora@victoriaunitarian.ca](mailto:rev.melora@victoriaunitarian.ca)

Reverend Shana Lynngood

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*Minister Emerita*

Reverend Jane Bramadat

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**Acting Director** : Anna Isaacs 778-557-3492 (text)

*Continued next page*

Continued from previous page

## DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

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## CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR

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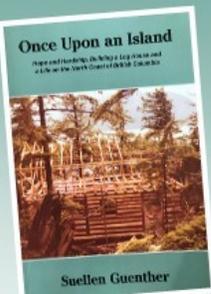
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