

Privacy Expectation in the Sanctuary

Like most denominations, all of our services and events are open to the public and Live-streamed. Consequently, churches like First Unitarian Church of Victoria (FUCV) have struggled with the issue of privacy. However, the consensus is that “open to the public” means that there is “no reasonable expectation of privacy” and churches need to provide a public notice of video/recording/Live Streaming to avoid any litigation.

Of course, we want to protect any attending/member family, young or old. And we need to protect FUCV.

Unfortunately, neither the Canadian Unitarian Council (CUC) nor the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) have a definitive policy/guideline that we can adopt. Hence, we are embarking on a journey to create a pragmatic policy that protects both families and FUCV.

On Sunday, we have a fun, family-centric service. We’ll create a camera/recording-free zone at the back of the Sanctuary for those that are concerned about privacy. Likewise, Lion Hall is safe zone.

Upon entry to the Sanctuary on Sunday, you will now see the following Notice.

NOTICE OF VIDEO AND AUDIO RECORDING

When you enter a First Unitarian Church of Victoria (FUCV) service or event, you enter an area where photography, audio, Live Streaming and video recording may occur.

By entering and by your presence here, you consent that you and any children and animals accompanying you may be videoed, photographed and/or otherwise recorded for our congregation and any online service that we choose to use.

Our cameras are generally directed at the front of the Sanctuary. We also provide the ability to watch the service or event on the TV in Lion Hall which is video-/photography-/recording-free zone.

... From the Audio-Visual Team