



*Henry David Thoreau, 1817 – 1862
B. D. Maxham daguerreotype, 1856 – Thoreau at age 39*

Nature Will Be My Language: A Close Encounter with Thoreau

Rev. Steven Epperson

– November 26, 2017 –



UNITARIAN CHURCH OF VANCOUVER



At the front of the church you will find unlit candles. You are welcome to light a candle in remembrance, in gratitude, in prayer, in celebration.

*The prelude helps to create a spirit for shared celebration and worship.
Please refrain from conversing and please turn off your cell phones.*



Warm Welcome!

Please visit our Visitors' Table in the Sanctuary foyer and get a nametag. Drop by the Welcome Table in Hewett Centre after the service and stay for coffee or tea and friendly conversation. Learn about our church and our community. Look for people wearing yellow nametags, who are welcoming you today.

If you are a new family visiting with children or babies, we look forward to welcoming you in person. We provide multiage programming and special workshops for children ages 2-12 with community building, questioning, wondering, and exploring as our goals. Babies and young toddlers are also provided for within our classes, the same as they are integrated into family life at home. Children and babies are always welcome to remain with you through the service if you and they prefer. Buddy Bags with a small stuffie, colouring pages, and crayons are available in the foyer for use during the service. If you feel that you need to slip out of the service with an upset child, please feel free to rejoin the service at any time. There is also a playroom for family use across from the kitchen in Hewett Centre.

The seats in the rear of the church are *reserved*:
(when facing the front) *left side for parents with babies or small children in childcare, and right side for persons in wheelchairs & strollers.*

The UCV Campus is a non-smoking environment.

TODAY AT UCV

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM: We are committed to providing safe, compassionate, age-appropriate programming for all children and youth who attend or visit UCV. Our goal is to build intentionally inclusive community across ages and explore big questions through story, art, and play. Sunday morning classes are presented free of charge as part of the mission of this congregation. Everyone attends the start of service together through the chalice lighting, opening hymn, and story for all ages.

- **After the story, children of all ages may proceed to the lower level of Hewett Centre** to the Channing room (south side downstairs) for our multi-age program, Spirit Play, led by our Religious Exploration staff teacher and trained volunteers. We welcome our very youngest to join us in this safe and exploratory space.
- **Children registered for the Truth, Healing, and Reconciliation Reflection Guide for upper elementary** (ages 8-11/grade 4-6) meet in the Parker room (central room) downstairs until 12:15.
- **Coming of Age** is a mentor based program for youth ages 12-14 exploring their own beliefs about life, the universe, and everything. Registered participants meet in the Hirschmanova room downstairs until 12:15 pm.

Please see Kiersten Moore, our Director of Religious Education if you have any questions or concerns.

Children and babies are welcome to remain with their parents/guardians through the service if they prefer. **Please meet your child downstairs after the service: children under age 9 will remain in class until met by a responsible family member. Older children may join their family upstairs for social hour.**

YOUTH GROUP: Our High School Youth Group (grades 8-12) meets from 1 – 3 pm each Sunday in Hitschmanova on the lower level of Hewett Centre. Our Youth Group is led collaboratively by the youth and trained advisors. They explore issues of faith development, social justice, life experiences, trials, tribulations and joys of navigating life—and they always include a good measure of fun and games. All youth members and visitors are welcome every week.

MEDITATION: Join us for the Sunday morning sitting meditation at 10 – 10:45 am. There is brief guidance at the beginning of each sit. Any inquiries can be sent to victoriaoginski@gmail.com.

TODAY’S FORUM: *Memory Sync* with Travis Johnson. After completing a film degree at New York University, Travis Johnson moved to Vancouver and works in the animated film field. His thesis film *Memory Sync* won numerous awards at film festivals. Travis will share his seven-minute film and talk about his story as an animator. Your comments and questions are welcomed. More at <http://www.wtjanimation.com/reel>.

DECEMBER’S UCV EVENTS is ready for pickup today at the welcoming table and in the Sanctuary foyer.

THANK YOU TO THE SUPPORT TEAM TODAY:

COFFEE SET UP AND SERVERS

FLOWERS

LIBRARY AND LITERATURE STALL

SOUND

LUNCH

GREETERS

WELCOME AND INFORMATION TABLE

Theresa Marion

Carolyn Innes

Aphrodite Harris

Rob Greig

No lunch this week

John and Rae Smith, Greg Grant, Gary Smook, Hilda Wiebe

Wendy Bryan, Jane Sutherland



Replica of Thoreau’s cabin at Walden Pond

Celebration of Worship: November 26, 2017

Prelude	<i>Woodland Sketches (excerpts)</i>	Edward MacDowell (1861 – 1908) E. Dainow, piano
Welcome & Greeting Our Neighbours		Rev. Steven Epperson
Kindling the Chalice Flame		Rev. Steven Epperson
Opening Hymn #355		<i>We Lift Our Hearts in Thanks</i>
Story for all Ages		Read by Rev. Steven Epperson
Let's sing the children out...		
Announcements		Karen Bartlett
Reading from the Book of Celebrations and Concerns		Karen Bartlett
Offering: <i>We deeply appreciate your presence here, your offerings and the gifts you share.</i>	<i>Will o' the Wisp</i>	Edward MacDowell E. Dainow, piano
Meditation, Spoken and then Silent		
Musical Response	<i>To a Wild Rose</i>	Edward MacDowell E. Dainow, piano
Nature Will Be My Language: A Close Encounter with Thoreau Rev. Steven Epperson		
Closing Hymn #1064		<i>Blue Boat Home</i>
Closing Words & Extinguishing the Chalice Flame		Rev. Steven Epperson

UCV This Week: Do you want to receive the weekly service information and announcements by email? Just send your request to ucvevents@gmail.com or sign up at the welcome table in the foyer any Sunday.

Next Sunday Service: December 3, 2017

The Invention of Air – an all-ages service
Rev. Steven Epperson

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

ATTENTION PARENTS AND ALL ADULTS: First Sunday of the Month, 9:30 am Adult RE Class Begins December 3rd! Join Rev. Steven Epperson and DRE Kiersten Moore in Lindsey-Priestley Room at 9:30 am for our first ever First Sunday Adult RE class on bringing Unitarian Faith Formation into our homes to share with our families. We will meet to discuss how building our faith and practice is something that happens all through the week, and that the best, most effective site for this to happen is in our own home. We will share ideas, discuss challenges best practices. In preparation, I encourage those planning to attend to take a look at the provocative and inspiring study (see the following link) that's making creative waves throughout the North American UU world. Kiersten and I look forward to meeting with you 9:30-10:30 am in Lindsey-Priestley. *Rev. Steven Epperson*. Reading link: <http://bit.ly/2yq23Y0>

CANADIAN COLOURS – FIBRE ART BY JUDY VILLET: If you missed Judy Villett's opening, join Mary Bennett and Teresa Morton for a private tour of Judy's studio and her show at Place des Arts. Wednesday, Nov. 29. Meet at Braid Street Studios at 2 pm, 100 Braid Street. Then we'll go to Place des Arts followed by tea with the artist. Late or lost? Text Mary 604-617-0142.

CHALICE CHOIR ANNUAL ADVENT CONCERT: *Singing the Season*. Join the Chalice Choir for a concert of seasonal music, featuring Gounod's *St. Cecilia Mass* and a singalong of Christmas favourites. Childcare provided. Reception to follow. Sunday, Dec. 3 at 7:30 pm, Sanctuary. Please remember that this is the choir's main fundraiser of the year and supports the choir's participation in our Sunday services. Invite your friends! Tickets: \$20 (Low income – pay what you can.) Available from any choir member or at the door. Note: tickets will be on sale next week after church in Hewett Centre.

MESSY CHURCH COFFEE HOUSE: December 8th, 6 – 9 pm. Jane Slemon is back with us to host our fall bi-annual coffeehouse. Brush off your musical talent, put on your poetry-jam hat, and come take your place in the spotlight. All ages and aptitudes are welcomed to the stage. We've had 2-year-olds through octogenarians alike perform at this much anticipated and beloved event. Chili dinner theme—bring your favorite chili or a side dish, bread, drinks, or dessert to share. Eat, sing, and be merry! Suggested donation to cover costs \$5 adult/\$3 child

HANUKKAH FOR EVERYONE: Saturday, Dec. 9. There will be activities for kids and the play room will be open for use by families. Some of our members with Jewish backgrounds are planning a program of decorating, singing, menorah lighting, blessing and dreidl playing. Come and enjoy customs you may be familiar with—or learn about this Jewish Festival of Lights. Rituals and dinner: 5 – 7 pm. After 7 there's circle dancing, Rummy and just enjoying conversation. RSVP appreciated to ucvhygge@gmail.com (Mary and Patti).

LATKE CREW: We're looking for 4-6 people to make potato pancakes (latkes) for the Hanukkah Potluck dinner on December 9. Your crew would coordinate purchase of ingredients and do the preparation 3 – 5 pm. Contact ucvhygge@gmail.com We'll be using Barb Taylor's latke recipe. Success guaranteed! No experience necessary.

NEW TO UCV BREAKFAST: Prior to the service Dec 10, 2017 there will be a breakfast at 9:30 am in the Fireside Room for anyone who has attended “New to UCV Workshop”. Various committee chairs will provide information on the many activities within UCV. For those ready to sign the membership book, Rev. Steven Epperson will witness your signature. For additional information, contact Dianne Crosbie at dcrosbie@uniserve.com or contact the church office at 604-261-7204.

OUR WHOLE LIVES (OWL sexuality education) for ages 9-10, Informational Forum, December 10th, 12:30 – 1:30 pm. Kiersten Moore DRE, Jon Breisnes, and Leonie Armstrong will explain the goals, content, and structure of our upcoming offering of Our Whole Lives for ages 9-10 (grades 4 and 5). Everyone is welcome, and please spread the word to any families you know with children around this age.

GREEN FUND HOLIDAY ARTISAN MARKET/CRAFT FAIR Dec. 17, 10 am – 2pm and 6:30 – 9 pm. Come find quality hand-made gifts and help support our Green Fund. Artisans are mostly from our own congregation. Visit us on Dec. 17 before and after the morning service and before and after the evening Candlelight Service. Look for artisans selling cards, pottery, jewellery, knitted sweaters and scarves, hand-painted silk scarves, photos, posters and art prints, honey, baked goods, candles, kids books, and some surprises. 10% of proceeds go to the Environment Committee Green Fund that supports greening the church and other worthy environmental projects.

KITS-WEST POINT GREY NEIGHBOURHOOD GROUP: Wednesday, December 20, 2:30 – 5 pm. We will have tea, conversation and make some tree ornaments. RSVP required: maryinvancouver@gmail.com or melkmason@gmail.com. Location: 2463 West 7th Avenue. Sorry, not accessible for those in wheelchairs or scooters.

2018 MULTIFAITH CALENDARS are now on sale! Pick up one of these beautiful calendars at the library in Hewett hall and mark a couple gifts off your list at the same time. \$15 or 2 for \$25. All proceeds go to **benefit UCV’s children’s programs** and the Multifaith Action Society.

LAY CHAPLAIN OPPORTUNITY: UCV Lay Chaplains co-create and officiate at weddings, memorials, child blessings and other rites of passage ceremonies. It’s a joyful, loving service to the greater community and a path to personal spiritual growth. For more details about the job’s requirements and its blessings, contact Nan Gregory, nangregory@shaw.ca, 604-228-1450, or Katherine Roback, katherinekrobback@gmail.com, 604-872-0426.

LOVE SOUP: Last Sunday’s Love Soup was very successful! Thank you very much for your continued support. Please note that we are in need of additional help for the December 17, January 21, and February 18 Love Soup lunches – please contact the office if you would like to participate!

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES FUND: The Outreach Opportunities Fund will be collecting for a First Nations organisation, *Warriors Against Violence Society* (WAVS), from October until January. WAVS has been in operation since 1998 with the aim of reducing violence against women by helping men learn how to make positive changes in their lives. The program provides the opportunity for participants to share their stories and obtain support, and reclaim traditional values of equality, honour and respect for themselves and others.



Our Vision

Because we envision a more compassionate world, we seek to deepen our spiritual and religious lives, grow and enrich our congregation, and advocate for love and justice.

Living Our Vision

As Unitarians, we are dedicated to spiritual growth, social justice, and reverence for nature and all life. We embody these values through worship, ethical action, artistic expression, and religious education for all ages that aim to connect hearts, heads, and hands. Our congregation welcomes all ages, orientations, abilities, and identities in our joyous search for meaning.

MINISTER AND STAFF

PARISH MINISTER

Rev. Steven Epperson

COMMUNITY MINISTER

Rev. Laura Imayoshi

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Kiersten Moore

CHOIR DIRECTOR

Donna Brown

MUSIC ASSISTANT TO THE MINISTER

Elliott Dainow

CASUAL CARETAKERS

Ben Yeung, Paul Nash, Igor Santizo,

Ken Godmere, Jennifer Débrosse

CONGREGATIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

Aurora Eyolfson

OFFICE ASSISTANT/ ORDER OF SERVICE

Marcus Hynes

BOOKKEEPER

Collene Harris

LAY CHAPLAINS

Nan Gregory, Louise Bunn

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