



Josef Sudek, Still Life 1954

Easter: The Power of Life & Gratitude

– April 16, 2017 –

Easter: The Power of Life & Gratitude

Creating an altar & Easter banner: a multi-sensory celebration

Closing Hymn #168

One More Step

Closing Words/Extinguishing the Chalice Flame

Rev. Steven Epperson

Valediction

Carry the flame of peace and love, until we meet again.

Carry the flame of peace and love, until we meet again.

* Tom Rawson is a folksinger and storyteller from Orcas Island, Washington. When he grows up he wants to be Pete Seeger. He'll be playing at the Jericho Folk Club in Vancouver on July 11, and at the Princeton Traditional Music Festival August 19-20. For more info, see www.tomrawson.com.



Next Sunday Service: April 23, 2017, 11 am

Looking for Hope in a Hopeless World

Dr. Jim Stephenson & the UCV Environment Committee

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

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APRIL 16, 2017 – TODAY AT UCV

SING TO THE POWER OF GIVING!



Thank you to all our wonderful pledgers who have given already. We have received \$218,000 as of April 9. Please enjoy Leonie, our Pledge gardener today and Patrick at the piano! If you have still to pledge, please come and see us in Hewett Hall after the service. *Liz Monrad and Lynn Armstrong.*

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 find the Fun with Meaning! Sunday morning classes and childcare are provided 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 ages 3-12 proceed to the lower level of Hewett Centre for their classes:

- Chalice Children (age 3-6);
- Origins & Journeys (ages 7-9)
- Sing to the Power (ages 10-12).

Childcare is available for children up to age three between 10:45 am and 12:30 pm in Servetus Room on the main floor of Hewett Centre opposite the library.

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.

CHILDREN'S ART SHOW: Our children started out the year studying cosmology and our origins in the universe. We learned about nebulae, stars, atoms, the Big Bang, giant stars, gravity, super novas, black holes and how every atom in our bodies and the evolution of life on earth is connected to all this cosmic activity. This art show is presented by our Awesome Kids (mostly age 7-9) and includes artwork inspired by our cosmic explorations, NASA photos of planets and moons in our solar system, and Hubble Telescope photos of nebulae, stars, and galaxies.

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.

MEDITATION: Join us for the Sunday morning sitting meditation at 10—10:45 am. There is brief guidance at the beginning of each sit. In consideration of others, please try to come on time. Any inquiries can be sent to victoriaoginski@gmail.com.

THE THIRD SUNDAY BOOK GROUP meets today, 12:30 – 2 pm in Lindsey-Priestley, to discuss *The Secret Scripture*, by Sebastian Barry, that traces a path through the violent upheavals of Ireland's past century. Barry writes about loss, broken promises, failed hopes. This is a novel of crippled perspectives and ducked responsibilities, written with a dramatist's timing and a poet's exactitude. All are welcome.

THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE is meeting today in Biddle at 12:30 pm. Interested or curious to hear what's going on? Come by and check out what we are doing within the church, around town, and beyond!

TODAY'S FORUM: *Children, Nature and Dance* with Anne Catherine McConnell. Anne Catherine teaches at Sherbrook University education department. Among the courses she teaches is how to teach the elementary school curriculum through dance. She is in town as part of the Children and Nature Organization's conference. Sponsored by the Forum Arts and Culture Group. 12:30 pm in the Fireside Room.

SACRED CIRCLE DANCE & POT LUCK DINNER: Sacred Circle Dance 2–5 pm, pot luck Hygge dinner at 5:30. About 20 people are pre-registered for dinner, but there's space for you! Come along and meet some new friends!

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL 23 FORUM: 12:30 pm in the Fireside Room. Our Forum on April 23 (the day after Earth Day) gives us an opportunity to share ideas with and offer encouragement to one another so we can help be the change we wish to see in the world. RandallMacKinnon@ymail.com

MULTIFAITH PILGRIMAGE TO BURNS BOG: Sunday, April 23 – right after our Earth Day service. Mark your calendar! Burns Bog, the "lungs of the lower mainland" because it stores carbon that would otherwise cause climate change, also cleans our air and water, provides habitat for many (endangered) species, and plays an integral role in our local ecosystem. It deserves reverence and needs protection. This Pilgrimage engages over 150 local citizens, including many Vancouver Unitarians, in a spiritual journey to the sacred ground of Burns Bog. We will carpool from UCV after the service. See <http://www.burnsbog.org/pilgrimage/>.

NEXT MOVEABLE FEAST: Saturday, April 29 at 6 pm. Location: Po Kong Chinese Vegetarian Restaurant, 1334 Kingsway (near 23rd Ave.). Please RSVP to secure your place at the table! Contact Dianne Crosbie (dcrosbie@uniserve.com) or Karen Bartlett (Karen.bartlett@ubc.ca)

ALL PARTIES FORUM: All Parties Election Forum on Environment and Social Justice. May 3, 7–9 pm at UCV. Co-sponsored by the Social Justice and Environment Committees, Unitarian Church of Vancouver, and the Suzuki Elders of the David Suzuki Foundation, the forum will focus on Social Justice (ending poverty, welfare rates, child care, affordable housing); Environment/Sustainability (transportation, Deas Island Bridge); and Jobs and the Economy (Party plans for a clean green economy with sustainable long term employment). All welcome!

NEW COVENANT GROUP FORMING: We have had some interest in a new covenant group - These groups usually meet monthly for 1.5-2 hours and are "mostly listening". Once formed a group is usually a maximum of 10 members and stay together for a year or two. If you'd like to know more about these groups, contact Mary, maryinvancouver@gmail.com. I'll try to arrange a meeting after church for all those interested within the next month or so. There's a lot of information at smallgroupministry.net or search vancouverunitarians.ca for "covenant group" if you want to learn more in the meantime.

UCV'S NEW COMING OF AGE PROGRAM! Next year UCV will be running a Coming of Age mentorship program for children and youth age 12 – 14 where our kids can learn, reflect, and grow. Do you have a child in this age range who wants to spend next year playing games, getting to know their peers, and deepening their understanding of their spirituality? If so, please email Olivia Hall (oliviahmargaret@gmail.com) and Kiersten Moore (dre@vancouverunitarians.ca) and come meet with us at the May 12th Messy Church dinner at 5 pm to help shape next year's program.

GLAD – GATHERING FOR LABYRINTH, ART & DANCE: Thursday, April 20, 11 am–1 pm. We start with some circle dance, then do meditation/colouring of labyrinths, time to walk labyrinth (if no rain) and then more circle dance. Small group. Mary Bennett will facilitate this month (note that the wrong date was accidentally put in UCV Events).

COFFEE SERVERS: Hi everyone, we are looking for coffee service volunteers for before and after the service. If you're new to UCV, it's a great way to meet everyone and make yourself at home! Please call Adele @ 604-603-8593.

FINDING IT HARD TO MEET PEOPLE ON SUNDAY MORNINGS? We know that coffee hour can be a little busy and noisy - and conversations may start but get interrupted. Your "Hygge" Team has lined up at least one potluck dinner for small groups in members' homes or at the church through to June. Please contact Mary at ucvhygge@gmail.com to get details.

SHARE YOUR STORY: A SERMON WRITING WORKSHOP: Sat. May 27, 2017, 12:30–5:30 pm at UCV. Facilitated by Rev. Meg Roberts. Workshop cost also includes 1 follow-up group coaching session to help integrate learning. **Cost:** Early Bird special to April 30 is \$35. (May 1–18 is \$50). Maximum 24 participants so register early. For more information contact UCV Worship Committee chair Way Kent: 110395@telus.net or phone the UCV office (604-261-7204) Early Bird Registration Deadline is April 30, final registration deadline is May 18.

UNITARIAN FAMILY CAMP AT LAKE SASAMAT, JUNE 2–4: Set in Port Moody's Belcarra Regional Park, the camp offers swimming, boating, hiking, climbing, children and youth programs, a choral workshop for youth/adults, campfires and other fun communal events. Heated cabins with electricity. Meals provided. Note: Children love this camp but you do not need to bring children in order to attend Family Camp! To see a fun video, go to Youtube and search for "Camp Sasamat hosted by Beacon Unitarian". For more information visit: <http://beaconunitarian.org/index.php/camp/>.

UCV Vision Taskforce--

(Léonie Armstrong [co-chair], Rev. Steven Epperson, Cole Harris, Kiersten Moore, Hanno Pinder, Jenny Podlecki, Paul Prescod [co-chair], Tamiko Suzuki)

Voting Today!

Today we will vote whether to approve (or not) the *Vision and Living Our Vision Statements* proposed for approval by the UCV Vision Taskforce. All are invited to remain in the Sanctuary for a brief meeting to read the Statements, answer any clarifying questions, and then vote by ballot. Anyone not able to stay for the meeting can still vote and hand their ballots to a Vision Taskforce member in the Sanctuary foyer and Hewett Hall.

Proposed UCV Vision Statement

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.

A note from Rev. Steven Epperson regarding the Vision Statement:

Several UCV members have questioned the use of the term “religious” in our proposed Vision Statement, (i.e. “...we seek to deepen our spiritual and *religious* lives.”) Isn’t it enough to say “spiritual lives” and leave it at that? I’m struck by the recent phenomenon of young people increasingly detaching from the digital cloud for their music and turning more and more to vinyl records, and from e-books to paper bound within covers. Not so long ago, we were led to believe that the age of vinyl records and physical books was coming to an end; it looks like the future has been postponed.

In an increasingly harried and digitized world, people are still seeking and need well-grounded, analog experiences. If we think of the *spirit* as mind and heart, which we would deepen and nourish, then *religion* is the body, the vessel that might just take us there. For that we need bricks and mortar; we need a place and time set aside to take us into an authentic, embodied experience of the spirit; and we need a community of like-minded, soulful folk to enable that joyous search of ours for a meaningful life to take place. For we know that *together*, our vision widens and our strength is renewed. Bricks and mortar, a place and time set apart for worship and learning, and a community dedicated to a meaningful life?: it’s called *religion*—something that’s still useful and relevant in our world now and in the future.

Warm Welcome!

Please visit our Visitors' Table and get a nametag in the Sanctuary foyer. 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. Free childcare is available for children 3 and under, and children 4 and over are invited to join in this week's program activities. Children are also welcome to stay for the church service if they prefer. If you feel that you need to slip out of the service with a crying baby, please feel free to rejoin the service at any time. The service can also be heard in the foyer and in Hewett Centre.

SUPPORT TEAM TODAY

COFFEE SET UP AND SERVERS	Liz Monrad, Eric Chen
FLOWERS	Diane Donaldson
LIBRARY AND LITERATURE STALL	Frances Anderson, Laura Gerken, David Buchanan
LUNCH	Love Soup
ORDER OF SERVICE	Marcus Hynes
SOUND	Kaelyn Elfert
GREETERS	Jane Sutherland, Shirley McLeod, Carolyn Grant, Denise Nereida
WELCOME AND INFORMATION TABLE	Karen Brumelle, Paul Wright

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	James Wilson, Mark Klassen, Ben Yeung Paul Nash, Matt Yeung, Igor Santizo
OFFICE ASSISTANT	Marcus Hynes
BOOKKEEPER	Collene Harris
SUNDAY RECEPTIONISTS	Virginia Crabill, Robert Schultz
UCV LAY CHAPLAINS	Nan Gregory, Louise Bunn

The Unitarian Church of Vancouver

We are a community of diverse beliefs and shared values.

In fellowship with one another, we seek spiritual growth, social justice, and environmental sustainability through worship, ethical action, education, and artistic expression. We welcome all who would join this compassionate and visionary community

The UCV campus is a Smoke-Free Environment