

*Image credit: Bridget's Cross; setsubun: chasing demons out;
Tu b'Shevat tree*

Spring Awakening

Rev. Steven Epperson

February 4, 2018



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 congregation. Look for people wearing yellow nametags, who are welcoming you today.

The Presence of Children is a Gift to the Church. Welcome!

If you are a new family visiting with children or babies please fill out a Children's Program visitor card at the Welcome Table so Kiersten Moore, our Director of Religious Exploration, can be in touch with you about our children, youth, and family programs.

Most Sundays, everyone begins the morning together in the Sanctuary for the first 10-15 minutes. We provide multi-age programming and special workshops for children ages 2-12 from 11:15-12:15. Community building, exploring traditions and values, questioning, and wondering are our goals. Babies and young toddlers may join us or stay with you in the Sanctuary.

Buddy Bags with a small stuffie, themed colouring book, and crayons are available in the foyer for use during the service. Please return them to the basket at the end; you may keep the colouring book. 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 those needing to slip in and out of the service, and
right side for persons in wheelchairs & strollers.

The UCV Campus is a non-smoking environment.

TODAY AT UCV

We gather together on the 1st Sunday of each month for whole congregation worship. On these days both children and adults participate in explorations, programs, and small groups at 9:30 am and then attend worship together at 11:00.

Worshipping together is a learning experience for everyone. To parents and responsible adults, we offer some tips to help you and your children be at ease:

- Mother Nature put the wiggle in children; don't feel you have to suppress it in our church.
- Sit towards the front where your child can see what is going on; backs of heads are boring! Help your child by being a role model.

- Gently and quietly remind them what we do in worship and explain what is going on.
- Answer your child's questions with a quiet whisper—they often whisper back.
- Encourage your child to work with their 'Buddy Bag' to help them concentrate on worship.
- If you have to leave the service with your child, please feel free to come back. We believe children belong in sacred spaces.
- The service can also be heard in the foyer and in Hewett Hall where a playroom is open for your use.

Nursing parents are welcome in any part of our building, if you wish for more privacy there is a comfy chair and a rocking chair in the Hewett Hall playroom.

YOUTH GROUP: UCV currently does not have an active community of high-school-aged youth. We do have trained and experienced youth advisors as well as a cohort of young people entering high school in the next year or two. If you are interested in Religious Exploration for this age group, please email Youth Coordinator Olivia Hall at oliviahmargaret@gmail.com or Director of Religious Education Kiersten Moore at dre@vancouverunitarians.ca.

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

NEW SERMON DISCUSSIONS: Inviting newcomers and regulars to share your thoughts, feelings and questions about today's service. Grab a coffee or lunch and join us for an informal discussion at 12:15 in the Lindsey-Priestley room (the side closest to the Hall entrance). Moderated by a host from Connect & Engage. Look forward to seeing you there! *Sheila (R)*, Connect & Engage Committee.

FORUM: *Behold the Vancouver Unitarians Website* - Paul Prescod and CompuTutor friends will answer questions, show and tell how to edit and navigate the Vancouver Unitarians website. This will be of particular interest to committees and programs. Further information: RandallMacKinnon@yahoo.ca. 12:30 pm in the Fireside Room.

CIRCLE DANCE & RITUAL: Celebrate the early signs of spring TODAY 12:30 – 1:30 pm on the Sanctuary stage. All welcome. Mary Bennett & Mairy Beam will facilitate.

TAROT WORKSHOP WITH LOUISE BUNN: Today's workshop on tarot cards has reached the maximum # of participants. If you've registered, please go to Hitschmanova Room for 2 – 4 pm. If you missed this opportunity but would be interested in a similar workshop in the future, contact maryinvancouver@gmail.com

UCV MEMBERS ART SHOW: January 3rd to February 28th. Mixed media. Please leave your comments in the book provided. Thanks!

LUNCH TODAY: Deliciously prepared and served by the UCV Environment Committee. Proceeds help fund projects to green the church and raise environmental awareness in the community.

UCV EVENTS: Pick up the 4-page listings of February events today.

Celebration of Worship: February 4, 2018

Prelude	<i>Ichijo (The Inevitable)</i>	Kineya Seiho Played by Alcvin Ramos, shakuhachi*
Invocation	<i>May Your Life Be As Song</i>	Y. Zaritsky and J. Scott With the Chalice Choir
Opening Words/Greeting Our Neighbours		Rev. Steven Epperson
Kindling the Chalice Flame		Rev. Steven Epperson
Opening Hymn #21		<i>For the Beauty of the Earth</i>
Special Presentation: Outreach Opportunities Fund	<i>Warriors Against Violence Society & Community Legal Assistance Society (CLAS)</i>	
Story for all Ages		Read by Rev. Steven Epperson
Welcome and Announcements		Léonie Armstrong
Reading from the Book of Celebrations and Concerns		Léonie Armstrong
Offering: <i>We deeply appreciate your presence here, your offerings and the gifts you share.</i>	<i>Haru no Umi (Spring Sea)</i>	Michio Miyagi played by Alcvin Ramos, shakuhachi
Meditation – Spoken, then Silent		Rev. Steven Epperson
Musical Response	<i>Nada Brahma</i>	B. Tate With the Chalice Choir
Spring Awakening Rev. Steven Epperson		
Closing Hymn		<i>Tu b'Shevat, Setsubun and Imbolc Mashup** (to the tune of Joni Mitchell's "The Circle Game")</i>
Closing Words/Extinguishing the Chalice Flame		Rev. Steven Epperson
Valediction	<i>Carry the flame of peace and love, until we meet again. Carry the flame of peace and love, until we meet again.</i>	

* We are very pleased to welcome Alcvin here again. He has been here for close to 20 years, having studied in Japan and then living in the States for a while. Not only does he teach and perform, but he also makes shakuhachi flutes. He also plays [Tsugaru Shamisen](#) (a Japanese spiked [lute](#)) and [shinobue](#) (a Japanese [side-blown flute](#)). He can be reached at ryu.zen18@gmail.com – Elliott

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Tu b'Shevat, Setsubun and Imbolc Mashup (to the tune of Joni Mitchell's "The Circle Game")

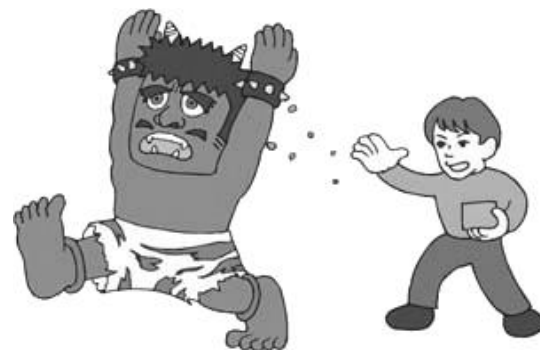
Someone said the sky's been gray a long time
Hope the sun will come again someday
Told her, it won't be so very long now
Listen now to what I'm a-going to say:

(Chorus) Well the seasons, they go round and round
And the nights get shorter and the sun shines down (on us)
The plants have been asleep a long, long time
You know the earth's a-warming up, and tilting toward the light
And we're all together here, it's a beautiful sight.

We've been celebrating lots of things here
Tu b'Shevat, Setsubun and Imbolc too
And don't forget about our friend the ground hog
They tell us we'll survive this long, cold slog.

Well the seasons, they go round and round
And the nights get shorter and the sun shines down (on us)
The plants have been asleep a long, long time
The earth's a warming up, and tilting back toward the light
And we're all together here, it's a beautiful sight.

(Repeat)



*Oni wa Soto, Fuku wa Uchi!
Demons Out, Happyness In!*

Next Sunday Service: February 11, 2018

Presence to Change

Rev. Frances Deverell

UPCOMING UCV COMMUNITY EVENTS

SECOND SUNDAY BOOK GROUP: *Fall Down 7 Times Get Up* 8. Feb 11, 12:30 – 2:00 pm in the Biddle Room. Author Naoki Higashida is a phenomenally successful author, and profoundly autistic. His observations are moving and thought-provoking. All are welcome to join us to discuss this man and his book.

SUPPORT WILD SALMON: Join us Friday, February 16, 6:30/7:00 – 9:30 pm in the Sanctuary to show support for and solidarity with First Nations in their efforts to remove ocean salmon farms from the waters of their unceded territories. Special Guest Speakers: Dr. David Suzuki (scientist), Chief Willie Moon (Musgamagw Dzawada'enuxw), Chief Ernest Alfred (Namgis, Mamalilika), Julia McIntyre-Smith (Musgamagw Dzawada'enuxw), and Cecilia Point (Musqueam). Music by Michael Averill, Barry Truter, and the Re:Sisters. Sponsored by the Environment Committee.

HYGGE DINNERS AND NEIGHBOURHOOD GROUPS: Hygge dinners are small (usually 8-10) potluck dinners that are hosted in members' homes usually, but not necessarily, on the 3rd Saturday at 6pm. There are 4 upcoming dinners. One on February 17, two on March 17. The 4th is for East Van Unitarians – If you live in East Van and want to join the email group to learn about this and other gatherings, send a note to ucvconnect@gmail.com.

NEXT MOVEABLE FEAST: Saturday, February 24th at 6 pm. Location: East is East Restaurant 3035 West Broadway, Vancouver (near Blenheim). www.eastiseast.ca RSVP: Dianne Crosbie dcrosbie@uniserve.com

PASSOVER SEDER/DINNER: Save the Date! Friday, April 6, 5:30 – 7:30 pm. Contact: Sheila sresels@telus.net

UCV COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

YOUR BOARD NEEDS YOUR HELP! We still need volunteers to chair the nominating committee, to be on or chair the Human Resources Committee and now an interim Treasurer (or small finance committee) to fill in for Liz who has had to withdraw to deal with serious health concerns. Please contact Marg at mfletcher508@gmail.com to learn more and to volunteer!

COMMUNICATIONS TEAM: Reporters needed. As we know “a lot goes on around here”. The Communications Team is looking for people who can do short interviews and follow up on information with links and information to write articles of approximately 500-700 words for our website. Contact Mary Bennett maryinvancouver@gmail.com (phone, skype or email contact is fine, so can be done from anywhere.)

LABYRINTH: It's almost labyrinth weather. Please walk our two labyrinths anytime. There are likely snowdrops up in the Fremlin Living Labyrinth – and crocuses sure to follow. If you can

help with occasional weeding, planting, fertilizing (and eventually watering—but not yet)
contact unitarianlabyrinth@gmail.com

VOLUNTEER: Are you ready to get involved with the community? There are several volunteer opportunities ranging from one hour per month to ongoing planning committee work. Sign up here: <http://vancouverunitarians.ca/community/volunteer/> or contact ucvconnect@gmail.com

THE 4TH SUNDAY COVENANT GROUP has openings for any interested UCV members or adherents. We will meet next Feb. 25, 12:45, and it will be an open meeting with the topic “*What is Listening?*” Interested? Please contact Nonie Lyon (nonielyon@shaw.ca)
More specifics about our groups it was in 2017: tiny.cc/2017ucv4th. Note: There are several small group ministries within the UCV community. (ref: vancouverunitarians.ca/ then search: covenant groups) They provide a small group environment, with spiritual intent.

JEWISH HOLIDAYS (JH) COMMITTEE: If you enjoy participating in celebrations that combine great food, stimulating conversation amongst Unitarians, their friends & family members, join our (JH) team. We’re currently working on a Passover Seder/Dinner (Fri, Apr. 6, 5:30 pm, Hewett Center, Main Hall). There will be a lively review of the ancient Exodus Story of Passover which strives for freedom against oppression and celebrates liberty for all. We are looking people to help out in the marketing, children, food, music, set-up & set-down teams. Please contact Sheila at sresels@gmail.com for more information.

LOVE SOUP: Thank you very much for your continued support. Please note that we are in need of additional help for the February 18 Love Soup lunch while Amy is away in Japan – please contact the office if you would like to participate!

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES FUND: The Outreach Opportunities Fund will be collecting for the Community Legal Assistance Society (CLAS), from February to May. CLAS provides legal assistance in BC to people with problems in the areas of workers’ rights, income security, housing, mental health and human rights. Legal advice and representation is given to people who have been involuntarily detained under the BC Mental Health Act as well as to complainants who have cases before the BC Human Rights Tribunal. A dedicated legal support service is also provided for advocates and community workers in the province.

THANK YOU TO THE SUPPORT TEAM TODAY:

COFFEE SET UP AND SERVERS

Eva Allan, Catherine Stewart

FLOWERS

Chris Pearce

LIBRARY AND LITERATURE STALL

Kaelyn Elfert, George Atherton

SOUND

Rob Taylor

LUNCH

Environment Committee

GREETERS

Ursula Litzcke, Denise Nereida, Melody Mason, Gerda Schulz

WELCOME AND INFORMATION TABLE

George Atherton, Jenny Podlecki

CARETAKER(S)

Paul Nash, Ahmed Walwail, Edgar Silveira



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, Ahmed Walwail, Edgar Silveira
Doug Ennenberg, Olivia Hall, Julie Worden,

RE STAFF

Jannika Nyberg

CONGREGATIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

Aurora Eyolfson

OFFICE ASSISTANT/ ORDER OF SERVICE

Marcus Hynes

BOOKKEEPER

Collene Harris

LAY CHAPLAINS

Nan Gregory, Louise Bunn

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Facebook: facebook.com/vancouverunitarians.ca

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