



Is Nature Thriving?

Rev. Steven Epperson

January 14, 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

After the Story we sing our children off to their Explorations in Hewett Centre:

- **Spirit Play meets downstairs in the Channing Room** (south end) until 12:15. **All visitors and children ages 0-12** are welcome to join this multi-age program centered around community, ritual, and story. Explorations are centered around the Seven Principles and Sources of Unitarian Universalism. Each Sunday starts with a story and moves into art, building, action, and garden activities.
- **Our Whole Lives** sexuality education for ages 9 & 10 meets today downstairs in the Parker Room (center) until 12:30 pm. These workshops meet twice a month and are restricted to registered participants.
- **Coming of Age** meets in Hitschmanova until 12:15. This is a year-long mentorship and spirituality exploration program for children ages 11-14 and is restricted to registered participants.

Children and babies are always welcome to remain with their family or responsible adult throughout the service if they prefer. The service can also be heard in the foyer and in Hewett Hall where a playroom is open for family use.

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

After the Service children age 9 and older will be released to join their family in the main Hall when their class is over. **Children age 8 and younger** must be met at their classroom door and signed out by a responsible adult.

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. There is brief guidance at the beginning of each sit. Any inquiries can be sent to victoriaoginski@gmail.com.

LUNCH TODAY: A delicious lunch served today by the UCV Refugee Committee. Lunch proceeds help us sponsor refugee families who want to come to Canada and to assist refugee families who have settled here.

FORUM: 12:45 pm, Fireside Room. *Renewable Energy in the Urban Environment, and the importance of “negawatts”*. Betsy Agar of BC Sustainable Energy Association will give us an overview of renewables in the Urban Environment, and then we’ll take a walk through our Sanctuary, to start thinking about how we can make our own beautiful space more energy efficient.

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

THE UCV BOOK CLUB meets today from 12:30 – 2 pm in Biddle to discuss Mohsin Hamid’s novel *Exit West*, which deals with contemporary issues of migration and xenophobia. Everyone is welcome.

THANK YOU TO THE SUPPORT TEAM TODAY:

COFFEE SET UP AND SERVERS

Pat Johnson, Pat MacBain, Eva Allan

FLOWERS

Lorraine Calame

LIBRARY AND LITERATURE STALL

Kaelyn Elfert, Lindsay Udem

SOUND

Galen Elfert

LUNCH

Refugee Committee

GREETERS

Margo Elfert, Sakura Nandana, Setty Pendakur, Penny Pearson

WELCOME AND INFORMATION TABLE

Eleanore Dunn, Wendy Bryan

CARETAKER(S)

Paul Nash, Jeniffer Debrosse

Celebration of Worship: January 14, 2018

Prelude *Twilight* A. Tcherbatcheff
To the Rising Sun Trygve Torjussen
Love Your Children's Land Jeannie Corsi / arr. E. Dainow
E. Dainow, Piano

Invocation *Spirit of Life* C. McDade
With the Chalice Choir

Opening Words/Greeting Our Neighbours Rev. Steven Epperson

Kindling the Chalice Flame Rev. Steven Epperson

Opening Hymn #361 *Enter, Rejoice, and Come In*

Story for all Ages Read by Rev. Steven Epperson

Let's sing the children out "*Go now...*"

Welcome and Announcements Karen Bartlett

Reading from the Book of Celebrations and Concerns Karen Bartlett

Offering: *We deeply appreciate your presence here, your offerings and the gifts you share.* *We Are the Earth* Jim Scott / arr. E. Dainow
Members of the choir & E. Dainow

Meditation – Spoken, then Silent Rev. Steven Epperson

Musical Response *Credo** From *Missa Brevis pro Serveto*,
by T. Stokes with Latin text by Rev. F. Dearman
With the Chalice Choir

Is Nature Thriving?
Rev. Steven Epperson

Closing Hymn #1064 *Blue Boat Home*

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.*

* Translation of *Credo*:

What do I know of the world?

What does a fish know of water?

What knows a bird of the air?

Nothing but weather, nothing but waves.

Nothing comes from nothing;

I am born from the earth,

from air and fire,

from water and stars.

And my life, which I owe to nature,

being mortal, I shall return to the earth.

I believe in spirit,

breathing upon the waters.

I believe in lovingkindness.

I believe in life.

Next Sunday Service: January 21, 2018

An Experience in Shared Ministry
Phil Campbell

UPCOMING UCV COMMUNITY EVENTS

NEXT MOVEABLE FEAST: Saturday, January 27 at 6 pm. Location: Banana Leaf Malaysian Restaurant, 3005 West Broadway, Vancouver (at Carnavon). Please RSVP to Dianne Crosbie, dcrosbie@uniserve.com. Venue is wheelchair accessible.



CHALICE CHOIR DOES PUSH FEST: Friday, January 19. This month, our choir will be one of 13 choirs to join actors Douglas Ennenberg and Luisa Jojic onstage for a full-scale Canadian Premier performance of *The Events*. Secret Songs – Love, Fear, Beauty – One Night Only! About the play: Claire, a left-wing lesbian priest – and a young man with a violent design. The play is not filled with violent acts. It follows Claire's attempt to understand how someone could do an awful thing. David Greig's daring new play explores our destructive desire to fathom the unfathomable and asks how far forgiveness will stretch in the face of atrocity. January 17-28 @ the Russian Hall. Tickets @ pitheatre.com

GLAD: GATHERING FOR LABYRINTH ART & DANCE: Thursday, January 18 in the Lindsey-Priestley Room. 11 am – 1 pm. We'll dance for new beginnings and do labyrinth collages for a vision board for 2018. RSVP appreciated but not required. circledanceucv@gmail.com

THE REDEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE congregational discussion has been postponed from January 21 due to ongoing work on the agenda. New date to be determined.

LOWER MAINLAND CONGREGATIONS MARCHING FOR JUSTICE: Saturday, January 20, 2018 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. Jack Poole Plaza at Canada Place for *March On - Vancouver* (anniversary of Global Women's March). We'll gather in the South East area of the plaza. Look for the banner, Canadian Unitarians for Social Justice. Bring your placards of choice. Yes, this includes the menfolk!

BUMBLEBERRY SUNDAY: Sunday, January 28. Bring a friend to experience all that UCV offers – they may discover they were closet Unitarians all along! After the service, enjoy Bumbleberry Sundaes courtesy of the New U Committee. Every berry lovingly handpicked last summer.

TAROT WORKSHOP with Louise Bunn. February 4, 2 – 4 pm. Maximum size: 14 participants. Must pre-register. Follow links on website.

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 mletcher508@gmail.com to learn more and to volunteer!

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS to help make the April 7th gathering of Lower Mainland Unitarian congregations at UCV a success! Some great plans are underway for the In-gathering, morning programing, lunch, afternoon programing, dinner, and evening entertainment. As the host congregation, we'll need volunteers to manage the kitchen & food, tech support, welcoming, billeting, site coordination, etc., etc. Please send your ideas, suggestions and offers of support to Lynn Armstrong at 778-835-2546 or lynnbea@gmail.com. Or, catch me after Sunday Services for a chat. Many thanks.

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.)

COFFEE @ UCV: Thanks to Pat & Pat and Eva for coffee (and tea etc) setup and service today. Can you volunteer for one Sunday a month either before or after the service? Contact ucvconnect@gmail.com.

REVIEW REQUEST: Do you use Yelp or TripAdvisor? If so, you could help the church by reviewing UCV on these sites to let people know that we are a welcoming and friendly community. Currently we have a negative review from a person who disagrees with our religious beliefs. *Thanks, Paul Prescod*

LOVE SOUP: Thank you very much for your continued support. Please note that we are in need of additional help for the January 21 and February 18 Love Soup lunches while Amy is away in Japan – please contact the office if you would like to participate!

2018 MULTIFAITH CALENDARS now available for purchase before and after the service in Hewett Hall! Beautiful, art filled calendars include notes about festivals each month from world religions of all kinds. They make wonderful gifts! \$15 each or 2 for \$25. All proceeds support the Children and Youth programming.

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.

OUTSIDE EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

A SPIRITUALITY OF RESISTANCE with Martha Saunders: Sat. Jan 20, 2018, 10 – 4 pm, \$70. Please bring lunch; refreshments are served. What do “good” and “evil” mean in a world enmeshed in human-caused ecological devastation and huge economic disparities among earth’s people? How can economically privileged people who seek to develop a meaningful spirituality and ethic resist the political and economic systems that create and sustain our advantages? **Location:** Canadian Memorial United Church, 1806 W.15th Ave. & Burrard St. Vancouver. Register: Programs@earthliteracies.org 250-220-4601 www.earthliteracies.org

CELEBRATING OUR DIFFERENCES – *Creating Positive Change in a Divided World*. Sunday, January 28, beginning at 3 pm. Sri Guru Singh Sabha Gurdwara, 8115 132. St., Surrey. In celebration of World Interfaith Harmony Week. The talented musicians and storytellers of the **Daughters of the Drum** and the **Naad Foundation** are returning for another inspiring gathering. Through stories and songs from many spiritual traditions, we will explore how to create positive change in a time of great uncertainty and fear. Admission is free, and all welcome to attend and share in Langar (traditional Sikh vegetarian meal). Visit www.multifaithaction.org for more information or to pre-register.



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, Ahmed Walwail

RE STAFF

Doug Ennenberg, Olivia Hall, Julie Worden,

CONGREGATIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

Jannika Nyberg

OFFICE ASSISTANT/ ORDER OF SERVICE

Aurora Eyolfson

BOOKKEEPER

Marcus Hynes

LAY CHAPLAINS

Collene Harris

Nan Gregory, Louise Bunn

Telephone: 604-261-7204

Email: info@vancouverunitarians.ca

Online: www.vancouverunitarians.ca

Facebook: facebook.com/vancouverunitarians.ca

To subscribe to the email version of the *UCV Events & Order of Service* write:
ucvevents@gmail.com Please include your name.