



Image: Emily Carr

Religious Naturalism, Take Two

Rev. Steven Epperson

April 14, 2019



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 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

MEDITATION: Join us for the Sunday morning sitting meditation at 10 – 10:45 am in the Meditation Room. There is brief guidance at the beginning of each sit. Inquiries: victoriaoginski@gmail.com

SERMON DISCUSSION: 12:15 – 12:45 pm at a designated table in the Hall. Newcomers/regulars welcome!

FORUM: *UCV Board Forum on Interim Ministry*. 12:30 in Fireside. This forum will be an informational and question and answer session on interim ministry, our first step after Steven steps away from ministry at UCV.

COMPUTUTOR: April 14, noon to 1 pm in Lindsey room – with Paul Prescod and Galen Elfert.

THE 2019-20 CANVASS PLEDGE TABLE will be open in Hewett Centre after today's service to answer your questions about pledging and to accept your completed pledge cards. We are a self-supporting community dependent upon the various forms of generosity of our members and friends. Your financial donations are deeply appreciated, and your pledges to donate help our board to plan. – 2019-20 UCV Canvass Committee

ZERO WASTE MEETING: Come join the Zero Waste team in the Family Room, 12:30 – 1:30 pm. This will be mainly a "hands-on" meeting, choosing containers and making labels to help people reduce waste. We are also looking for volunteers to take some items to recycle depots.

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

FEMINIST BOOK CLUB! The next Zoom book club meeting is taking place today at 4 pm PDT. The book to be discussed is *The Red Word*, 2018 Governor General award winner for novel. Sponsored by Canadian UU Women's Association: <https://cuuwa.org/>. Local contact: Mary Bennett, maryinvancouver@gmail.com.

ART EXHIBIT: March 1 to April 30 - in the Sanctuary and Fireside Room, inkjet prints by member Catherine Stewart. For the duration of this exhibit, 50% of any sales will be donated to the UCV Refugee Fund! To inquire about purchasing, please speak with Catherine or contact her at stewartcm@shaw.ca.

Families with Children, Welcome!

Our Director of Religious Exploration, Kiersten Moore, coordinates a team of staff and volunteer teachers to provide programming for children (up to age 12) and youth (secondary school age). We build community, explore traditions and spiritual practices, ask big questions, and nurture individual power to bring love and justice forward. Visit our website for more information at www.vancouverunitarians.ca or email Kiersten at dre@vancouverunitarians.ca. There are many volunteer opportunities within the program and it is a great way to be involved, deepen spirituality, and build connections.

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.

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.

Children and Youth on Sundays

Everyone begins the morning together in the sanctuary for the first 10-15 minutes of worship through the *Story for All Ages*. The First Sunday of each month everyone remains in the Sanctuary for worship together (nursery care is available during all-ages services), 2nd to 5th Sundays children (up to 12) and youth (13-19) continue their Explorations across the courtyard in Hewett Centre.

Responsible adults must pick up children under age 9 from their classroom at 12:15 pm, Youth Group runs until 12:30 pm, older children and youth will be released to meet their families in the hall for coffee hour. You may join your child in Explorations, but we encourage giving them their own time whenever possible.

Colour Buttons Identify Teachers and Advisers

Orange: Toddler Watch--attending to babies and children under 4 within the Children's Program.

Green: Children's Program Leaders and Assistants

Yellow: Youth Advisers

Children and babies are always welcome in our worship services. 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 explain what is going on, how people are listening or participating.
- 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 your child needs to leave the service, 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.

Offering: *We deeply appreciate An Die Musik*
your presence here, your offerings
and the gifts you share.*

By F. Schubert, arr. C. Courtney
With the Chalice Choir

Meditation

Rev. Steven Epperson

Musical Response

To a Wild Rose

E. MacDowell
E. Dainow, piano

Religious Naturalism, Take Two

Rev. Steven Epperson

Closing Hymn #27

I Am That Great and Fiery Force

Closing Words

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.*

*An Die Musik (poem by Franz von Schober)

*You, noble Art, in how many grey hours,
When life's mad tumult wraps around me,
Have you kindled my heart to warm love,
Have you transported me into a better world,
Transported into a better world!*

*Often has a sigh flowing out from your harp,
A sweet, divine harmony from you
Unlocked to me the heaven of better times,
You, noble Art, I thank you for it,
You, noble Art, I thank you!*

UCV COMMUNITY EVENTS

CHALICE CHOIR SPRING CONCERT: Donna's Favourites! Donna Brown is celebrating her 20th year as the Chalice Choir director and our spring concert will feature many of her best-loved pieces. We'll sing a Josquin Kyrie, a UU Credo, a song featuring a whale solo and much more. Sunday, May 5, 7:30 pm, Sanctuary. Childcare provided. Reception to follow. Tickets: \$20 (or 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.

NOW IS THE TIME TO RENEW YOUR ONGOING ROOM BOOKINGS FOR 2019-2020! If you are part of a group or committee that meets regularly at UCV (including on Sundays before/after service), and you would like to continue using spaces into the next year, please **contact Marcus at the office to renew your bookings now.** Your timely attention and support is appreciated. Contact Marcus at marcus@vancouverunitarians.ca or by phone at 604-261-7204, x 0.

GLAD GATHERING FOR LABYRINTH, ART & DANCE: Thursday, April 18, 11 am – 1 pm. This monthly mid-day break starts with creating a centrepiece from natural objects and plants found around UCV. Then we circle dance and walk the labyrinth. This month we'll dance several tunes on the garden path labyrinth. Contact: circledanceucv@gmail.com. RSVP appreciated but not required.

FIRESIDE FORUM ON MOUNTAIN PAINTINGS AND POEMS: Sunday, April 28. David Marmorek and Dennis Brown met in the Tantalus Range five years ago. Last year they published a book of Dennis's [landscape paintings](#) and David's poems (see [passing-through.ca](#)). At the Forum, we'll show Dennis' paintings; tell you mountain stories, poems and science stuff; answer your questions; and have fun!

GENDERS & SEXUALITIES ALLIANCE (GSA) POTLUCK AND FILM: Join us on Friday, May 3, for a potluck dinner at 6:30 pm. We will show the 2008 documentary film *She's a Boy I Knew* at 7:30 pm. RSVP appreciated: gsaucv@gmail.com. Search the website for "GSA" to see other news and events.

WORLD LABYRINTH DAY IS SATURDAY, MAY 4 – WALK AS ONE AT ONE: All over the world people will be walking labyrinths at 1 pm local time. Our event will start at 1 pm and will include art materials to draw and paint the flowers of the labyrinth (Pat MacBain will be setting up her easel); Tara Bonham will play her harp around 2:30 pm. Mary will demonstrate an easy way to draw a labyrinth yourself and answer all questions about labyrinths. Our walk is also registered with Jane's Walk Vancouver (in honour of Jane Jacobs). All ages welcome. Questions? unitarianlabyrinth@gmail.com

UCV'S THIRD COMPASSION CIRCLE – 2019: Want more compassion in your world? Consider UCV's Third Compassion Circle (practicing Compassionate Communication, CC) plus the Compassion Course Online 2019 from New York (receiving 52 weekly emails covering CC concepts we then practise in the Circle). The 2019 Circle's 1st session is on June 23rd, 9:30 - 10:55 am in the Fireside Room. It will thereafter meet on the 4th Sunday each month 12:30 – 2 pm in Lindsey-Priestley. Please contact Sheila R at sresels@gmail.com or Cindy Cashin at cindy_returns@yahoo.com to register prior to May 31st. Registration is required and spaces are limited.

PROMOTE YOUR EVENTS! We are planning two upcoming workshops to help UCV teams get the word out about their events. Register on the web or contact sharinguvcv@gmail.com. May 25, 1 to 4 pm: posters, flyers and brochures; June 8, 1 to 4 pm: design your team's web presence. For more details, see the web listings!

UCV COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

CATHERINE STEWART BOOK LAUNCH & TALK: Everyone is invited to join artist and UCV member Catherine Stewart (currently exhibiting in the Sanctuary and Fireside Room) for her photo book launch and talk *The Museum as Muse: exploring natural history through art* on Thursday, April 18 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm at the Beaty Biodiversity Museum at UBC (Talk at 7:00 PM). Admission to the museum is by donation. More about Catherine's exhibition at the Beaty Museum can be found at: <http://beatymuseum.ubc.ca/whats-on/exhibitions/current-exhibitions/skin-bones/>

RECENT NEWS ON THE UCV WEBSITE: A list of every post so categorized, most recent at the top, with a snippet view of each – <http://vancouverunitarians.ca/topics/news/> – including one dated April 9 about today's sermon. A must-read!

GENTLE REMINDER: UCV's kitchen is considered a food establishment and certain rules have to be followed in order to maintain compliance: A) For people who have business in the kitchen during meal times, that they should wash their hands when they enter the kitchen; and B) for lunch patrons, please request kitchen items from the food preparers and to please not enter the kitchen themselves. Thank you!

BE A UCV CONNECTOR: Are you a friendly person who could help people newer than you to find their way around UCV? UCV Connectors are matched up with new people who have completed our online survey saying they'd like more information about various aspects to Unitarian life. The survey is at: <https://tinyurl.com/ucvwelcome>. Contact Mary at ucvconnect@gmail.com if this sounds right for you.

EARTH SPIRITUALITY AT UCV: Our monthly earth spirituality e-newsletter just went out this week. View it and sign up here: <http://vancouverunitarians.ca/worship/earth-spirit/>

UCV NEIGHBOURHOOD GROUPS:

- New Westminster: Rob Dainow (rdainow@shaw.ca)
- East Vancouver: Mairy Beam (mairyelesbea@gmail.com) and Paul Prescod (paul@prescod.net)
- Westside: Jeannie Corsi & Sheila Resels – contact ucvconnect@gmail.com
- Fairview/False Creek – Vivian Davidson (vdavidsonsc@gmail.com)

Is your neighbourhood not listed? Would you like to meet Unitarians who live near you? Contact Mary Bennett ucvconnect@gmail.com for help at connecting with your neighbours.

UCV EVENTS PUBLISHER NEEDED: Margo will be stepping down in June. For someone familiar with MS publisher or adept at learning, this task is about 6 to 8 hours per month. It can be done at the UCV office or at your home. Contact Mary at sharingucv@gmail.com for this or other Communications team contributions.

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES FUND: West Coast Environmental Law (WCEL) will be the recipient of OOF funding from 1 February to the end of May. Over the years, WCEL has worked with communities, NGOs, the private sector and all levels of government to develop legal solutions to protect the environment. It has supported First Nations in articulating, revitalizing and applying their laws to protect land, air and water and has taken a leadership role in developing models for co-governance in BC and Canada.

UCV CARE AND CONCERN COMMITTEE

A way to reach out in time of need: If you or others in the congregation are in need of support in times of transition, loss, illness, moving, etc., please contact: careandconcern@vancouverunitarians.ca. Sincerely, Rev. Steven Epperson

Do you receive our e-newsletters? If not, please go to vancouverunitarians.ca/newsletter to view recent newsletters (and sign up to receive in your inbox.)

Next Sunday Service: April 21, 2019

Deep Green Change

Dr. Leonard George

THANK YOU TO THE SUPPORT TEAM TODAY:

COFFEE SET UP AND SERVERS

Karen Hertz, Joan Balmer, Pat MacBain

FLOWERS

Lorraine Calame

LUNCH

Environment Committee

LIBRARY AND LITERATURE STALL

Sheila Lindfield, George Atherton

SOUND

Galen Elfert

GREETERS

Sakura Nandana, Setty Pendakur, Penny Pearson, Denise Nereida, Hank Einarson

WELCOME AND INFORMATION TABLE

Alison Pearson, Dianne Crosbie

CARETAKER(S)

Paul Nash, Max Carranza



We actively welcome people of all sexual orientations and gender identities!

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 DIRECTOR	Elliott Dainow
CASUAL CARETAKERS	Ben Yeung, Paul Nash, Igor Santizo, Edgar Silveira, Vivian Davidson, Matt Yeung
RE STAFF	Doug Ennenberg, Jannika Nyberg
YOUTH COORDINATOR	Olivia Hall
CONGREGATIONAL ADMINISTRATOR	Aurora Eyolfson
OFFICE ASSISTANT/ ORDER OF SERVICE	Marcus Hynes
BOOKKEEPER	Gordon Lowe
LAY CHAPLAINS	Lauren Stokes, Cheryl Amundsen, Louise Bunn

Office Hours: Monday to Thursday, 9:30 am to 2 pm; Friday, 9 am – 1 pm (by appointment);
Sunday, 10 am to 1 pm | **Telephone:** 604-261-7204

Email: info@vancouverunitarians.ca | **Web:** www.vancouverunitarians.ca

Facebook: facebook.com/vancouverunitarians | **Instagram:** instagram.com/vancouverunitarian

To subscribe to the email version of the *UCV Events & Order of Service*, go to
www.vancouverunitarians.ca/newsletter.