



“Conditional Optimism” About Climate Change?

Rev. Steven Epperson
February 24, 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!

UCV GROUP ART SHOW: January 3rd to February 28th – mixed media artworks provided by UCV members and congregants!

FORUM: 12:30 pm in Fireside. *Arts and the Filter of Mental Illness*. Presented by Lenore Rowntree. Rowntree's novel *Cluck* was published in 2016 (Thistledown Press). She is co-editor and contributor to the anthology of life stories *Hidden Lives: true stories from people living with mental illness* (Brindle & Glass, 2nd edition 2017). She produced and co-wrote the theatre piece *SRO Stars* as part of the Heart of the City Festival in 2018. All of these works are from a mental health worldview.
<http://lenorerowntree.com>

Families with Children, Welcome!

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 family 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.

Sign-up on the Vancouver Unitarians website volunteer page to Bake a Cake! Everybody's Birthday is an annual celebration after Sunday Worship on March 10. Everyone sits at table with others born in the same month and the children serve salad, soup, and cake. It's lighthearted, friendly, and delicious. Lunch Donations cover costs and raise funds to support and enhance the Children's Religious Education programs. We need volunteers to pull this off! You can support the children by signing up to bake a cake, (we need 14), set-up tables, assist children with decorating, serve food, or clean-up. So many options to fit many levels of participation!
<http://vancouverunitarians.ca/community/volunteer/>

We are seeking applications for two occasional childcare positions. Our childcare staff of the past three years has moved on to full-time employment as a preschool teacher—congratulations Julie! Parents and children will miss her dearly. We offer casual employment for one or two childcare workers covering the first Sundays of each month, Messy Church potluck, and other UCV events—such as the Chalice Choir concerts, films, adult workshops or orientations, and other events throughout the year. The position is ideal for someone who loves caring for young children, can regularly work 3 hours on the first Saturday evening and 2 hours during first Sunday worship services of most months, and may be available for occasional other events. Contact Kiersten Moore, Director of RE at dre@vancouverunitarians.ca for more information or to apply.

Celebration of Worship: February 24, 2019

Prelude	<i>Selections by Solaris</i>	Solaris*
Opening Words/Greeting Our Neighbours		Rev. Steven Epperson
Kindling the Chalice Flame		Rev. Steven Epperson
Opening Hymn #347		<i>Gather the Spirit</i>
Story for All Ages		Told by Rev. Steven Epperson
Children's Recessional	Let's sing the children out...	

“Go now in peace, go now in peace, may the spirit of love surround you, everywhere, everywhere, you may go”

Welcome and Announcements		Emilie Adin
Reading from the Book of Celebrations and Concerns		Emilie Adin
Offering: <i>We deeply appreciate your presence here, your offerings and the gifts you share.</i>	<i>Mind Open Wide</i>	Solaris
Meditation/Prayer		
Musical Response	<i>May I Be</i>	Solaris
Homily		

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Closing Hymn #1068		<i>Rising Green</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>	

* **The Solaris Music Project** is a collaboration of musicians whose aim in performing music is to raise the awareness and response-ability of those listening and thereby enable right action on behalf of all beings everywhere. Find out more at: <http://solarismusic.org> Join them for their upcoming free concert on at 7 pm March 10th! **Earth Vespers: music for the living planet** – a musical service in celebration of the beauty of Mother Earth, compassion for all who live here and the interconnectedness of Life. West Point Grey United Church, 4595 8 AVE W.

UCV COMMUNITY EVENTS

NEXT GSA GATHERING: Monday, February 25, 6:30 pm for a potluck social and some planning. Please pick up the new Genders & Sexualities Alliance brochure in the brochure holders in the foyer of the sanctuary. RSVP as space is limited to gsaucv@gmail.com

POTLUCK BOOK AND LUNCH CLUB: Thursday, February 28, 11:00 am – 1:00pm Fireside Room. Bring a couple of good books to recommend and some food to share. Some of us are vegan and gluten intolerant. Others aren't. No stress. Book chat; eats; friendly conversation. Nice. Questions? Contact Nan: nangregory@shaw.ca.

NEXT SUNDAY – GENTLE CIRCLE DANCE: Come and get some gentle exercise to music next Sunday, March 3 in the Fireside Room, 2 – 3:30 pm. Mairy Beam and Mary Bennett teach four dances that we repeat three times each, so you can relax into it. If you have always felt you have two left feet this could be the session for you! RSVP appreciated but not required: circledanceucv@gmail.com.

EARTH SPIRIT CIRCLE: On the first Tuesday (March 5) we gather in Hitschmanova to celebrate the turning of the seasons.

POT LUCK LUNCH FOR REV. FULGENCE NDAGIJIMANA: Saturday, March 2, 11 am. Help us give a warm greeting to Rev. Fulgence Ndagijimana, visiting from Saskatoon. Most of you will know that Rev. Fulgence has a mission to help his fellow Unitarians from Burundi. Please come join us. Sponsored by the Partner Church Committee.



BECOME A WIKIPEDIA EDITOR: March 2, 4 – 5 pm we will have an experienced wikipedia editor helping us learn how to register as an editor and make changes. She has managed to restore our page at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Unitarian_Church_of_Vancouver. Come with your suggestions on how you think we should add or change this page. (Stay for Messy Church and chat some more if you can.) RSVP appreciated: sharinguvcv@gmail.com (Mary). Youth very welcome.

MARCH 3 FORUM: Are you looking for ways to make climate-friendly behaviours easy and convenient, designed to add meaning and connection to your life? Through video and discussion, we will examine the uplifting, brilliant and paradigm shifting approach taken by Per Espen Stoknes, a psychologist with a PhD in Economics, Ted Talk global speaker, Parliamentarian, clean-tech entrepreneur, award winning author and serves as the director of Centre for Green Growth at the Norwegian Business School. Presented by Catherine Hembling and Enviro Team members. Fireside Room. 12:30 to 2:00.

FROM COLONIZATION TO RECONCILIATION: A READING AND DISCUSSION GROUP: Wednesdays, Feb 20; Mar 6, 20, & 27; April 3 & 10. Fireside Room, 7 – 9 pm. To begin to effect truth and reconciliation between settler Canada and First Nations peoples, we've been challenged to read foundational laws, treaties, Acts, and official Commission reports and recommendations. No prior knowledge or expertise is expected. Just a willingness to read, discuss, listen, learn and be changed. For more info and links, see <http://vancouverunitarians.ca/events/from-colonization-to-reconciliation-a-reading-and-discussion-group-2019-02-20/>

PRACTICING INTERACTIVE THEATRE FOR LIVING: We meet monthly to practice techniques in interactive, improvisational theatre. Anyone welcome! Wear comfortable clothes and be prepared for fun and insight. Next practice: Sat. March 9, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm in Hirschmanova. RSVP to host Rev. Meg Roberts to confirm practice, 778- 870-9015 or mroberts@uuma.org.

THE UCV SECOND SUNDAY BOOK GROUP will meet on March 10th at 12:30 pm in Biddle to discuss *Women Talking* by Miriam Toews, which deals with “a fictionalized story of a real life rape in a religious colony” (Guardian, Sept ‘18). Everyone is welcome.

UCV WORDPRESS WEBSITE TRAINING: Learn how to post news and events to the UCV website so your committee can get the word out. A series for beginners is scheduled for Saturdays 1 – 4 pm, March 16 and June 1. Register with Aurora 604-261-7204 or ca@vancouverunitarians.ca

WANT TO ENRICH AND EMPOWER THE LIVES OF WOMEN? Thirteen women participated in a discussion group at the 4th Annual Women’s Gathering (<http://vancouverunitarians.ca/events/annual-womens-gathering/>) and decided to form not just one, but TWO NEW WOMEN’S GROUPS which meet monthly. One group meets on the third Monday of the month, 7:00-9:00 pm in the Fireside room and the other group meets on the first Friday of the month from 2:00-4:00 pm in the Fireside room. Registration is required. Both groups are now full. Contact Sheila at sresels@gmail.com if you would like to be put on a wait list or if you’d like to be part of a third Women’s Group.

UCV COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

HAPPY INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY! Next Sunday, March 3, Mary and Sheila will have a Focus Table in Hewett Hall from 10:15 to 1 pm with books from our library and information about various women's groups and initiatives here at UCV and around Vancouver. Come and find out how to join a women's group; International Women's Day, Feminist book clubs, Art+Feminism wikipedia edit-a-thon and the Vancouver Growing Room Feminist Literary Festival.

MEET OUR NEW BOOKKEEPER! We are pleased to welcome Gordon Lowe to the UCV team as our new in-house bookkeeper! Gordon brings many years of church accounting experience to the role. You can find him at the office on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9 am to 3 pm, and on Fridays by appointment. You can also reach him by email at accounting@vancouverunitarians.ca or ph 2604-261-7204-ext 222

LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS: The library group is looking for a volunteer to welcome and help people who come into the UCV library on the second Sunday of the month for a few months. No experience necessary. We are looking for enthusiasm!

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 – 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 REPORTERS NEEDED - REFUGEE COMMITTEE AND VISUAL ARTS: The communications committee is looking for "reporters" (one or two) to write up news, collect/take photos and post on the website updates for the Refugee Committee and the Visual Arts committee. This would involve talking with committee news, writing up an article, sending to the committee for any additions or corrections, asking for photos, taking some (with permission of course) or finding images online to illustrate the content. For the arts committee,

the article could be in the style of a review and ideally interviewing and photographing that month's artist. (You do not need to attend meetings but of course you could.) Most if not all of this work could be done from home with a phone and computer. You would need to take the Feb. 23 workshop on how to post an article to the website. Apply to communications@vancouverunitarians.ca

OUR WHOLE LIVES FOR AGES 12-14 IS BACK! A sexuality education program for youth that models and teaches caring, compassion, respect, and justice. Move beyond the intellect to address the attitudes, values, and feelings that youth have about themselves and the world. This program is comprehensive and progressive. In an inclusive and developmentally appropriate manner, it addresses sensitive topics that are typically excluded from other curricula and classes offered. Contact Kiersten Moore (dre@vancouverunitarians.ca) or Olivia Hall (oliviahmargaret@gmail.com) for more information. Check <http://vancouverunitarians.ca/education/owl/> for updates.

FEMINIST BOOK CLUB? CUUWA Canadian UU Women's Association is setting up a monthly cross-Canada book club focusing on contemporary books on feminism. It will likely meet on a Sunday at 3 pm Pacific/7 pm Atlantic using zoom technology: <https://cuuwa.org/>. Locally Mary Bennett is involved: maryinvancouver@gmail.com. Send any book recommendations to Mary. Mary's particularly interested in exploring the concepts of third wave feminism and intersectionality.

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. In particular, 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.

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: March 3, 2019

Creativity – An All-Congregation Worship Service

Kiersten Moore & Rev. Steven Epperson

THANK YOU TO THE SUPPORT TEAM TODAY:

COFFEE SET UP AND SERVERS

Karen Hertz, Ingrid Luters, Amy Megumi Anderson

FLOWERS

Carolyn Innes

LUNCH

UCV Youth Group

LIBRARY AND LITERATURE STALL

Aphrodite Harris, Hilda Wiebe

SOUND

Rob Greig

GREETERS

John Smith, Greg Grant, Denise Nereida, Diane Brown

WELCOME AND INFORMATION TABLE

Brock MacLachlan, Hanno Pinder

CARETAKER(S)

Edgar Silveira



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, Eric Sun
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, 10am to 1pm | **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.