



Image credit: Cathal Mac an Bheatha via Unsplash.com

Am I Welcome Here, Just as I Am?

Rev. Meg Roberts

August 26, 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 am – 12:15 pm. 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.

THANK YOU TO THE SUPPORT TEAM TODAY:

COFFEE SET UP AND SERVERS

Karen Hertz, Melody Mason, Joan Balmer

FLOWERS

Carolyn Innes

LIBRARY AND LITERATURE STALL

Aphrodite Harris, Hilda Wiebe

SOUND

Rob Greig

GREETERS

John Smith, Greg Grant, Gary Smook, Hilda Wiebe

WELCOME AND INFORMATION TABLE

Philomene Jahnke, Brock MacLachlan

CARETAKER(S)

Paul Nash

TODAY AT UCV

Parents of toddlers please check in at the Playroom with the Guides before the service. Depending on your child's needs and personality you and the Guides can decide whether your child stays with you or joins any older kids who attend.

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! Our Summer program is small and laid back, focused on games, gardening, and art led by volunteer guides and parents. Activities are open to both members and visitors. 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 may join our Religious Exploration Guides in Hewett Centre for garden activities, games, and art. (see note above about children under age 3).

Children and babies are welcome to remain with their adult family members through the service if they prefer.

Please meet your child in the playroom (Servetus room—across the Hall from the kitchen) or in the garden after the service: children under age 9 will remain with the Guides until met by a responsible family member.

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 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.

THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE is meeting Sunday morning in Biddle at 9:30. 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!

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

SERMON DISCUSSION, 12:15 – 1 pm at a designated table in the Hall. Newcomers/regulars welcome!

Valediction

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

**Nicola Hamilton is a musician and lifelong Unitarian. She was a lead in the Chalice Choir for several years, and has been the director of Out in Harmony, Vancouver's LGBTQ (and friends) choir, since 2003. She is currently studying music therapy at Capilano University.*

Next Sunday Service: September 2, 2018

Growing Eden in the Heart of the City

Jen Rashleigh

UPCOMING UCV COMMUNITY EVENTS

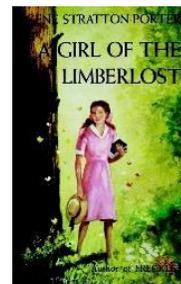
SEPTEMBER POT LUCK LUNCH: *Reminder***** Saturday, September 8th, noon – 3:00 pm in the Fireside Room (Hewett Centre). If you've become a UCV member within the past 5 years, you're invited to a POT LUCK LUNCH, to meet other recent members. RSVP to Vivian Davidson at vdavidsonc@gmail.com and let her know what food you'll be bringing to share. Sponsored by the Connect & Engage Team – Vivian, Cathy, Sheila



SUBSCRIBE: Subscribe to our e-newsletters. A monthly e-news goes out on (or near) the first of each month. Go to vancouverunitarians.ca/newsletter

PAGANISM 101: Registration for Paganism 101 is open now. There is a limit of 12 spaces so if you're interested please register early by contacting Aurora in the office at ca@vancouverunitarians.ca or 604-261-7204. The course will run one night a month 7 – 9:30 pm on the 4th Tuesday of each month, starting in September. There is more information on the web linked to vancouverunitarians.ca/earth-spirit.

UCV BOOK GROUP PRESENTATION: Sunday, September 9, Lindsey-Priestly Room, Hewett Centre. Presenter: Judy Villette Book: *A Girl of the Limberlost* by Gene Stratton Porter. Will this 1909 American classic hold our interest today? The subject matter: environment, poverty, family strife, romance, and education seem timeless. Can we still be inspired by a writer and naturalist with no formal education? Pick up a copy at the library or download it online at ClassicReader.com and join us Sunday, September 9, 12:30 pm for the first meeting after the summer break.



HEYUU MEN'S GATHERING: Every year several Unitarian and like-minded men gather at Sasamat Outdoor Centre for a relaxing and inspiring weekend of collegial creative connection. This year it is September 28-30. Find out more, and register now at heyuu.ca!

UCV COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

CELEBRATION OF LIFE FOR BAR PARKER: Please join the family of former UCV member, Bar Parker, in remembering her and sharing your stories of her on Sat., Aug. 25th in the Fireside Room from 2:30-5 pm. If possible, please RSVP at: barpar86@gmail.com Thank you.

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES FUND NOMINATIONS: Every year, the OOF Committee selects three recipients to be given 25% of the funds from the Sunday collection. Traditionally, the committee has selected the beneficiaries of the fund but this year we would first like to seek nominations from the wider congregation. Nominated organizations must comply with OOF's selection criteria. For more information go to the UCV website, or check the notice board in Hewett Hall for nomination forms. Contact Melody Mason with any queries.

COFFEE SERVICE: Thanks to those who have offered to help. Much appreciated! We still have a couple of regular spots to fill. We need servers for the 3rd and 4th Sunday of each month. If you can't commit to be a regular helper, please consider becoming a spare. Please contact Eva Allan at eallan@telus.net or at 604-738-4062.

EARTH SPIRITUALITY GATHERINGS @ UCV: our latest e-newsletter with lots of events (circle dance, labyrinth walking, earth spirit rituals) is now posted at vancouverunitarians.ca/earth-spirit

OFFICE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Office staff are looking for volunteers to provide a presence at the reception desk on Sundays from 10 am - 1 pm. Training will be provided. If interested, please call Aurora at 604-261-7204, extension 224, or email ca@vancouverunitarians.ca.

COVENANT GROUPS: Two groups (2nd Thursday and 4th Sunday) are accepting new members. Contact ucvconnect@gmail.com to be put in touch (or check event listings on web.)

NEW NEIGHBOURHOOD GROUP: Do you live in Fairview/False Creek or nearby? We're planning a first gathering at Kaya Malay restaurant on Broadway near Oak at end of August. Contact ucvconnect@gmail.com if interested. Vivian Davidson, member of the Connect & Engage team, is spearheading this group but she's away till late August. Contact vdavidsonc@gmail.com after August 23 with suggestions for your neighbourhood group.

THE WESTSIDE UNITARIAN NEIGHBOURHOOD GROUP will continue meeting on the 4th Tuesday, 2:30 – 5 pm over the summer at Jeannie Corsi's house (next meeting: Aug 28). 4311 W. 14th Ave. (wheelchair accessible). RSVP essential as space is limited. Contact ucvconnect@gmail.com

OTHER NEIGHBOURHOOD GROUPS:

- New Westminster: Rob Dainow (rdainow@shaw.ca)
- East Vancouver: Mairy Beam (mairyelesbea@gmail.com) and Paul Prescod (paul@prescod.net)
- Richmond/South of the Fraser: Drew Lemen (lemen.drew@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. Mary can offer some suggestions of how to get started and facilitate introductions.

UCV WILDERNESS CAMP: Are you searching for a restorative week surrounded by natural beauty? Fry Creek is the place for you! This magical camp, founded by Phillip Hewett and others 53 years ago, is on the east shore of Kootenay Lake. Come discover the calm harmony that's hard to find in the busy city - no cell phone service and no internet! If you feel like socializing, there are Unitarians from Vancouver, Rossland, Calgary, Nelson, Seattle and other places in the Pacific Northwest. If you feel like solitude, there's lots and lots of room to explore on land or on water, and beautiful places to quietly sit, read, draw, listen and look. The camp is open during July and August. Everything you need to know can be found here: <https://kootenaywildernesscamping.org/>. For additional information, contact dcrosbie@uniserve.com

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES FUND: The Outreach Opportunities Fund will be collecting for the Orphaned Wildlife Rehabilitation Society (OWL) from June to September. OWL is a non-profit organization whose staff and volunteers are dedicated to public education and the rehabilitation and release of injured and orphaned raptors.

ONLINE ROOM BOOKINGS: Committee and congregants are encouraged to try requesting room bookings using our new online bookings form, found at <https://tinyurl.com/ucvroom>. For questions/troubleshooting, contact Marcus at 604-261-7204 or marcus@vancouverunitarians.ca.

WALK OUR LABYRINTHS: For a meditative experience, please feel free to walk our two labyrinths at any time. The 3-circuit classical labyrinth is made from concrete pavers in the courtyard. The garden path labyrinth on the east side of the sanctuary is a double processional. Feel free to pick calendula blossoms and sprigs of lavender as you walk. There's also sage, rosemary, thyme, chives and various mints. Snip some to take home! Vancouverunitarians.ca/labyrinth email: unitarianlabyrinth@gmail.com

OUTSIDE EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

'RECONNECT TO LIFE' INTERFAITH CONFERENCE: Saturday, September 8 at UCV. Joining citizens across Canada to 'RISE for Climate Action' on September 8, and in advance of the 'Parliament of World's Religions' in Toronto, faith leaders and community from Metro Vancouver will gather for a meaningful, multicultural dialogue on the power of 'spiritual activism' to engender global peace, sustainability and harmony in the face of an uncertain future. Our world is on the edge. The situation is urgent, and we are each being called to reflect deeply, to speak clearly, and to act boldly in support of the continuation and well-being of all life on this planet!

Keynote speakers: **Chief Phil Lane Jr.** and **Rabbi Laura Kaplan.** Circle dialogues facilitated by **Maureen Jack La-Croix.** Light lunch provided. Admission by donation. Pre-registration via www.multifaithaction.org highly recommended.

CREATIVE ARTS ELIOT CAMP 2018 for UUs and their Friends and Families. *Creative Arts Eliot* takes place in Seabeck, WA, August 11-15, 2018, and offers UUs and friends a multi-generational camp experience with workshops in Photography, Poetry, Painting, Songwriting and more. Campers choose one or two workshops to focus on and spend the rest of their time enjoying the waterfront, campfires, singing, UU community, games, evening programs and entertainment, including an Extravaganza on the last day to showcase everyone's creativity. For more info, contact Eliotregistrar@gmail.com or visit our website at www.eliotinstitute.org.

The wall hanging above the stage was created by Donna Hamilton for the UUA General Assembly in 1995.



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,
Ken Godmere, Edgar Silveira, Vivian Davidson

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

Lauren Stokes, Cheryl Amundsen,

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*, go to
www.vancouverunitarians.ca/newsletter.