



Image credit: Shyana Golden

Mothers' Day and Flower Communion

Rev. Steven Epperson

May 12, 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: *Vancouver's Rental Housing Crisis – Is the Rental 100 Policy the Answer?* The City of Vancouver created the [Rental 100: Secured Market Rental Housing Policy](#) to encourage the new development of 100% rental units and to help reach its goal of creating 20,000 new units of market rental housing by 2027. However, these constructions are replacing older, less-expensive rental buildings, resulting in the demoviction of long-term tenants, replacing them with higher, unaffordable units. This policy is being reviewed by the City. Come hear Councillor Jean Swanson speak about the impact of this policy and what we can do to promote more affordable rental accommodation in Vancouver.

2ND SUNDAY BOOK GROUP: TODAY the UCV Second Sunday Book Group meets at 12:30 in Biddle to discuss *The Invention of Wings*, by Sue Monk Kidd. This novel tells the story of two women, Hetty, a slave, and Sarah, a wealthy Charlestonian. The character of Sarah is inspired by Sarah Grimke, an early pioneer of abolition and women's rights. Everyone is welcome.

ART SHOW: *Free to Be... Me!* This year's Children's Art Show was inspired by a project we did in March around the transgender day of visibility. They talked about what it means to be an individual and the importance of being free to express yourself and not hide who you really are. Each child had the opportunity in April to create a portrait of themselves in any way that spoke to them. Here are self-portraits of many children in our Religious Exploration program. Portraits in words, pictures, symbols, and colour. Each personal to the individual artist. I hope you enjoy this small peek into our children's creative reflection of themselves.

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.

Flower Communion and Prayer

SE: In the name of that which plants in the seed the future of the flower and in our hearts
the longing for people to live in harmony

Congregation: *In the name of the sages, the wise and noble women and men who lived
their lives in order to hasten the coming of justice and peace – let us renew our resolution,
sincerely, to be brothers and sisters.*

SE: In this our holy resolve, may we be strengthened in the spirit of affection and
fellowship so that...

All: *TOGETHER, may we endeavour to achieve a more just and joyful life.*

Closing Hymn #212

We Are Dancing Sarah's Circle

Closing Words and 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.*

Postlude

Life is Just a Bowl of Cherries Buddy De Sylva, Lew Brown & Ray
Henderson
Jeepers Creepers Johnny Mercer & Harry Warren
Helen Hansen & Michael Creber*

** I am pleased to welcome Helen and Michael here again. Helen is part of a music club that I am part of and
sings around town and Michael is one of the foremost jazz players in the city. – Elliott*

*** I originally chose today's anthem, Mother Whale Lullaby, as a tribute to Mother's Day. However,
further research by choir members has revealed that humpback whale females do not sing, only the adult
males do and they are often nowhere near the mother and baby whales. However, in 70% of mother/baby
pairs, there is a male nearby. The song itself is a wonderful fantasy about being able to sing alongside these
amazing creatures. Perhaps we could stretch the fantasy a little and imagine that the male whales are
serenading in appreciation of the mothers. The translation of the Latin is: Baby whale, stop swimming,
sleep.*

UCV COMMUNITY EVENTS

GATHERING FOR LABYRINTH ART & DANCE: Come for a creative, meditative day-time break with
environmental art, circle dance and a labyrinth walk. Thursday, May 16, 11 am – 1 pm. Contact:

earthspiritucv@gmail.com

POSTER DESIGN WORKSHOP: Learn the fundamentals of poster design to help promote your team's events! This introductory workshop will provide a crash course in effective design principles, with examples and case studies, before jumping into some hands-on instruction using OpenOffice, an open-source software package that is free and accessible to everyone. Saturday, May 25 from 1 – 4 pm with UCV Office Assistant and graphic designer [Marcus Hynes](#). You *do not* need a laptop computer to participate in this workshop (instructional handout materials will be provided), but if you want to follow along, feel free to bring one with OpenOffice pre-installed.

SITE REDEVELOPMENT CIRCLE OF CONCERN WORKSHOP: Please join us on Sunday, May 26 from 12:30 to 2:30 pm in the Fireside room to share any issues or concerns you have about the current site redevelopment project and process and to explore these issues and concerns in more depth. This is a followup to the March 31 Listening Circle forum where at least 35 congregants shared their concerns, which were summarized and grouped into 8 categories of concerns. This 3 page report is available here: <http://bit.ly/2V5bov2> or in the sanctuary foyer on Sundays until May 26 or in the office.

TRADING MEETUP & KOMBUCHA DEMO: Trade your stuff for other stuff! Cayla and Mary are organizing another mini-meetup for trading. There will be a kombucha demo and herbs for trading (mints, chives, etc.) Zero Waste Team zerowasteucv@gmail.com tinyurl.com/bunzucv for more details. May 26, 2 – 3 pm. Weather permitting, we'll be outside.

IMPROVE YOUR TEAM'S WEB PRESENCE: Saturday, June 8, from 1 – 4 pm with Luke Zukowski. (This is Level 3 – at least one of your team needs to be able to post news and events).

PRACTICING INTERACTIVE THEATRE FOR LIVING: We meet to practice techniques in interactive, improvisational theatre. Anyone welcome! Wear comfortable clothes and be prepared for fun and insight. We won't be meeting on May 11 so our last practice before summer break will be: Saturday, June 8, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm in Hirschmanova. Would you like more info? Contact Rev. Meg Roberts, 778- 870-9015 or mroberts@uuma.org.

UCV'S THIRD COMPASSION CIRCLE – 2019: Want more compassion in your world? Consider UCV's new Compassion Circles (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. Two sessions at 9:30 - 10:55 and 12:30 – 2 pm in the Family Room. 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.*

UCV COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

MR. SHARP IS BACK! Clarence Phelps is bringing his precision diamond knife-sharpening equipment to Hewett Hall on **Sunday, June 9**. On that day, bring your knives, scissors, garden shears, scythes and other bladed implements, and enjoy your cutting experiences for months to come.

THE EARTH HAS A SOUL--NATURE WRITINGS BY C.G. JUNG: We are starting a new small group on the 4th Sunday of each month 12:30-1:30 pm. Each session will focus on a chapter from this book and the process will use covenant group guidelines of check-in, sharing, deep listening (rather than debate or discussion). Leadership will rotate. Contact Mary if you want to register or learn more: earthspiritucv@gmail.com. As with covenant groups, once we reach 10 members, the group will be closed.

OPENINGS FOR 1-2 MEMBERS IN THE HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE: Do you have experience and knowledge about human resources issues? Would you like to join a committed group of HR committee

members? Help us contribute to making our UCV workplace a positive, satisfying experience for staff, members and the general public. Contact Sheila R., chair of the HR Committee at sresels@gmail.com.

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.

WHERE IS THE PHONE NUMBER? If a printed announcement, a poster, or some other document doesn't include a phone number to call to find out more and you don't do email or whatever, just call the office – (604) 261-7204 – and ask for me to call you back. —George Atherton.

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: May 19

Refugees and Distress Migration – Where Are We in 2019?

Huguette Sansonnet Hayden

THANK YOU TO THE SUPPORT TEAM TODAY:

COFFEE SET UP AND SERVERS

Karen Hertz, Joan Balmer, Pat Johnson

FLOWERS

Lorraine Calame

LUNCH

No lunch today

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

Nancy Strider, Hanno Pinder

CARETAKER(S)

Paul Nash



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.