



*Left: Black Lives Matter confrontation, Louisiana, 2016 // Right: Statue of Sophia/Wisdom, Ephesus*

# Women and Wisdom: International Women's Day

*Rev. Dr. Steven Epperson*

*March 8, 2020*



# 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.



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*The prelude helps to create a spirit for shared celebration and worship.  
Please converse quietly and please turn off your cell phones.*

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## ***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 chi gong at 9:15 – 9:45 am in the Meditation Room, followed by sitting meditation. There is brief guidance at the beginning. Inquiries: [victoriaoginski@gmail.com](mailto:victoriaoginski@gmail.com)

**LUNCH TODAY** will be served by the Partner Church Committee. Proceeds will go to support our Unitarian friends in Burundi.

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

**THE ENVIRONMENT TEAM** is meeting Sunday in the Foyer of the Sanctuary at 12:30. Interested or curious to hear what is going on? Come by and check out what we are doing within the Vancouver Unitarian community, around town, and beyond!

**THE UCV BOOK CLUB** meets today at 12:30 in Biddle to discuss *Suzanne*, by Anais Barbeau-Lavalette. The story is a fictionalized account of Anais's grandmother, Suzanne Meloche, a painter and poet associated with Les Automatistes. The book was selected for Canada Reads 2019 and touches on major social and personal issues including freedom, creativity and responsibility.

**ART EXHIBITION:** Landscapes by Dennis Brown. An exhibition of oil paintings based on the traditional plein-air method of painting directly from life – March 1 to April 30, 2020 - in the Sanctuary and Fireside Room. More about the artist at: [www.Dennisbrownpainting.com](http://www.Dennisbrownpainting.com). Dennis Brown is a Vancouver based painter who studied art at the University of British Columbia, Emily Carr College of Art and Design, and the Vancouver Academy of Art. Many of Dennis Brown's paintings are held in private collections across Canada, the United States, Europe and Australia.

## *Families with Children, Welcome!*

Vancouver Unitarian families connect, grow, and learn in many ways. Visitors, friends, and returning members are welcome to drop-in to our Sunday morning programs anytime.

Our children and youth groups 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 [www.vancouverunitarians.ca](http://www.vancouverunitarians.ca) or email Kiersten at [families@vancouverunitarians.ca](mailto:families@vancouverunitarians.ca)



Kiersten Moore, Director of Religious Exploration

### *Children and Youth on Sundays*



Everyone begins together in the Sanctuary for Worship through the *Story for All Ages* before leaving to classes and groups (excepting the first Sunday of each month, which is an all-ages service).

- Youth Group (ages 13-19)—meets 10:15 to Noon in Hitschmanova, lower level of Hewett Centre. Drop-in anytime
- Passport to Spirituality (ages 4-9)—meets upstairs in the rooms closest to the Hewett Hall entrance (Lindsey-Priestly)
- Crossing Paths (ages 10-12)—meets either in Fireside room or downstairs in the preschool.

**A parent/guardian or adult family member must pick up children under age 9** from their classroom at 12:15, older children and youth will be released to meet their family in the Hall.

**Toddler Watch Team** attends to babies and children under 4 within the Children's Program. Look for the Children's Guide with the bright orange button or check in with the Leader—bright pink.

**Children and babies are welcome to remain** with their adult family members through the service. Nursing parents are welcome in any part of our building. You may join your child in explorations if you wish.

We offer some tips to help children be at ease in the Sanctuary:

- 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; 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.



**Buddy Bags** are available in the foyer for use during the service!

# Celebration of Worship: March 8, 2020

<b>Prelude</b>	<i>Romance op. 11</i> <i>Blue Interlude</i> <i>Jazz Finale</i>	Clara Schumann Martha Meir Martha Meir Played by Elliott Dainow
<b>Invocation</b>	<i>May Your Life Be Your Song</i>	By J. Scott and Y. Zaritsky With the Chalice Choir
<b>Opening Words/Greeting Our Neighbours</b>		Rev. Steven Epperson
<b>Kindling the Chalice Flame</b>		Rev. Steven Epperson
<b>Opening Hymn</b>	<i>#109: As We Come Marching, Marching</i>	
<b>Story for All Ages</b>		Told by Rev. Steven Epperson
<b>Welcome and Announcements</b>		Huguette Hayden
<b>Reading from the Book of Celebrations &amp; Concerns</b>		Huguette Hayden
<b>Offering:</b> <i>We deeply appreciate your presence here, your offerings and the gifts you share.</i>	<i>Warrior</i>	The Wyrd Sisters With E. Moulding, K. Vriesema-Magnuson & B. Breisnes

**Text-to-Give!** You know that you can now donate to UCV via text message! Simply text an amount to 778-771-1707 to get started today, or visit <http://bit.ly/2VFEWDS> for more information!

## **Meditation, Spoken then Silent**

<b>Musical Response/Anthem</b>	<i>1000 Grandmothers</i>	By H. Near, arr. D. Moore With the Chalice Choir
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## **Wisdom and Wisdom: International Women's Day**

Rev. Steven Epperson

<b>Closing Hymn</b>	<i>#212: We Are Dancing Sarah's Circle</i>
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<b>Closing Words &amp; Extinguishing the Chalice Flame</b>	Rev. Steven Epperson
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<b>Valediction</b>	<i>Carry the flame of peace and love, until we meet again</i> <i>Carry the flame of peace and love, until we meet again</i>
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**Please note (from Rev. Epperson): CU\*UWA 2020 International Women's Day Worship and Study Package.** Follow link to this excellent worship and study package assembled by members of the Canadian UU Women's Association: <https://cuuwa.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/CUUWA-Wisdom-package.pdf>

## UCV COMMUNITY EVENTS

**CANADIAN UNITARIAN COUNCIL 2020 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:** UCV needs 8 delegates to represent us at the CUC AGM on Saturday 16 May 2020 (from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm PT). Delegates may attend in person in Halifax, NS, or from elsewhere via *zoom* teleconference. A room will be booked at UCV so that delegates who choose to participate from Vancouver can meet as a group. Only official delegates will be eligible to speak but all UCV members and friends are welcome to attend. Contact [Keith Wilkinson](#), [Lynn Armstrong](#), [Kiersten Moore](#), or [Emilie Adin](#) if you are interested in representing us—otherwise, we'll come looking for you!

The AGM will be preceded on Thursday, 14 May, (3:30 to 5:00 pm PT) by an informal Plenary session, a cross-Canada dialogue on issues of common interest to Canadian UU congregations. ALL UCV members and friends are welcome to attend, observe, and participate in the Plenary Session.

**COME CELEBRATE OSTARA** /the Spring Equinox with the earth spirit circle. Tuesday, March 17, 7 – 8:30 pm in the main hall- bring snacks for potluck feast afterwards. There are usually 15-20 people who join us for pagan ritual, circle dance, meditation. This month participants will make their own mini-herb garden with lavender, rosemary, thyme and sage. We'll have basic supplies, but if you have a planter you'd like your new garden to be in, bring it along. Otherwise, basic 4" plastic pot. [earthspiritucv@gmail.com](mailto:earthspiritucv@gmail.com)

**RESCUE YOUR THREADS!** Give a second life to your clothing at our drop-in monthly mending workstations. We share sewing equipment, knowledge, snacks, and conversation. No sewing experience required, just a bit of enthusiasm to give it a try! Next Meetup: March 28 from 12 to 2 pm. Contact Marie at [findmariewitt@gmail.com](mailto:findmariewitt@gmail.com) for more info and reminders.

**SAVE THE DATE:** The Membership Team is invited to a workshop, dinner and social, Saturday, March 28, 2 to 8:30 pm in Fireside. Registration: <https://vancouver.breezechms.com/form/membershipworkshop>

**BOOK BASH:** On March 29 from 9-1:30 the library committee will be putting on our semiannual book sale in Hewett Hall. Please come and have a look at the wide variety of fiction, nonfiction and children's literature that will be available at very low prices. And please tell your friends!

**NEW TO VANCOUVER UNITARIANS INFORMATION WORKSHOP:** Everything you wanted to know about Unitarianism and Vancouver Unitarians but were afraid to ask. Join us for this one-day information workshop, Saturday April 4th, 9:15 am – 2:30 pm, Fireside Room. Coffee and Muffins 9:00 am, lunch provided. Attendance encouraged prior to becoming a Vancouver Unitarian member. Interested current members also welcome. Registration forms available at the Welcome Table or office or on line at: <https://vancouverunitarians.ca/events/new-unitarian/> Childcare available if requested 2 weeks in advance. Questions, contact Dianne Crosbie at [dcrosbie@uniserve.com](mailto:dcrosbie@uniserve.com) or the church office at 604 261-7204.

**UU WOMEN'S RETREAT** at Bethlehem Centre (Nanaimo) April 17 to 19, 2020. Enjoy a wonderful weekend retreat that includes 6 delicious meals, private bedrooms, and a main room for activities. Experience connection with other UU women, several discussion circles to choose from and time for yourself. There is a 6km trail around the small lake and a labyrinth to walk in the centre's beautiful and relaxing setting. Expect spiritual renewal at this special place and time, along with a craft opportunity (this year it will be inspirational rock-painting), yoga, and singing.

Cost is \$295 (early bird price until March 15) and then \$315 afterwards. To register, contact Jane ([janefoxincomox@gmail.com](mailto:janefoxincomox@gmail.com)) NOTE: There are 4 accessible rooms available.

**SINGING GROUP:** Do you like to sing? Join us every second Sunday of the month in the Lindsey-Priestley room at 12:30 pm!

**THE EARTH SPIRIT/UNITARIAN PAGAN GROUP** now meets twice a month: on the 3rd Tuesday and the Last Thursday. If you'd like to receive automated reminders, just contact Mary Bennett at [earthspiritucv@gmail.com](mailto:earthspiritucv@gmail.com)

## **UCV COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**MYSTERY PALS SIGN-UP COMING SOON!** Mystery Pals old and new will be able to sign-up for a 2020 Pal in March for letter exchange throughout April! Knowing each other helps create a safe and connected community—this is a chance to bridge generation gaps between those who might not meet on a regular Sunday. More information and sign up forms will be on the bulletin boards and welcome table or email Kiersten at [dre@vancouverunitarians.ca](mailto:dre@vancouverunitarians.ca)

**SUNDAY MORNING HOSPITALITY:** More than 50 people volunteer to help make Sunday morning welcoming--from greeters, to welcome table, to coffee servers and those who staff the sermon discussion table. All of these teams occasionally need additional people, so if you could help please fill out this form: <https://vancouver.breezechms.com/form/sundayvolunteers>. The Connect & Engage team are particularly looking for people to be at the sermon discussion table with a smart phone, tablet or laptop to help people sign up to any newsletters or registration forms they may be interested in. This can be done on your own device (or theirs) or you can borrow the UCV tablet or laptop. Contact Mary Bennett if you can help with this [ucvconnect@gmail.com](mailto:ucvconnect@gmail.com)

**MANAGING DOCUMENTS FOR UCV:** To avoid wasting paper and to enhance communications between the Board and the congregation, as well as potential members in the public at large, most of our documents are kept on-line. We invite you to bookmark this site so that you can have ready access to research documents that may be of interest such as board minutes, committee chairs, policies and procedures and documents relating to the ministerial transition. Here's the link to this directory: <http://bit.ly/394xgOO>

**MENDING: YOU CAN DO IT; WE CAN HELP!** On 4th Saturdays from 12 to 2 pm, Marie Witt sets up two sewing machines and people bring their mending, darning or craft projects to work on together in a friendly, helpful ambiance. More details and an RSVP form if you want to receive automated reminders 3 days prior can be found here: <https://vancouverunitarians.ca/events/makers-darn/>  
Questions? contact Marie at [findmariewitt@gmail.com](mailto:findmariewitt@gmail.com)

**OUR OOF RECIPIENT** is the Aboriginal Mother Centre (AMC) whose purpose-built facility offers accommodation for 16 at risk mothers and their children. It provides all the support, tools and resources a mother needs to rebuild her life and keep her children. Services include counselling, education, training, and spiritual and social support. AMC also organizes homelessness outreach and family wellness programs, licensed daycare and a community kitchen.

**MR. SHARP IS BACK!:** Clarence Phelps is bringing his precision diamond-honed knife-sharpening equipment to the Hewett Hall on the following Sundays: March 15, April 19, and May 17 from 10 am to 2pm. Bring your knives, scissors, garden shears, scythes and other bladed implements and enjoy your cutting experience for months to come!

**INTERESTED IN JOINING THE HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE?** We're looking for someone with an interest in and working knowledge of human resources. Please contact Sheila Resels, chairperson of the Human Resources Committee, at [sresels@gmail.com](mailto:sresels@gmail.com) for further information.

**WEEKLY EMAIL WITH ORDER OF SERVICE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:** This now goes out through Breeze, our new database. You can sign up here: <https://vancouver.breezechms.com/form/thisweekemail> or go to <https://vancouverunitarians.ca/newsletter>

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

## Next Sunday Service: March 15, 2020

### Settler Colonialism, Indigenous People, and Unitarianism

*Cole Harris*

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#### THANK YOU TO THE SUPPORT TEAM TODAY:

**COFFEE SET UP AND SERVERS**  
**FLOWERS**  
**LUNCH**  
**LIBRARY AND LITERATURE STALL**  
**SOUND**  
**GREETERS**  
**WELCOME AND INFORMATION TABLE**  
**CARETAKER(S)**

Ingrid Luters, Joan Balmer  
Lorraine Calame  
Partner Church Committee  
Sheila Lindfield, George Atherton  
Galen Elfert  
Margo Elfert, Ursula Litzcke, Gerda Schulz  
Hanno Pinder, Karin Hall  
Sam Shenher, Paul Nash

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*Left: Machig Labdron, Tibetan Buddhist teacher*  
*Right: "Wisdom Hath Buildded Her House,"*  
*Proverbs. 9:1, Novgorod, 16<sup>th</sup> Century*





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

<b>PARISH MINISTER</b>	Rev. Steven Epperson
<b>COMMUNITY MINISTER</b>	Rev. Laura Imayoshi
<b>DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION</b>	Kiersten Moore
<b>CHOIR DIRECTOR</b>	Donna Brown
<b>MUSIC DIRECTOR</b>	Elliott Dainow
<b>CASUAL CARETAKERS</b>	Ben Yeung, Paul Nash, Karen Hertz, Edgar Silveira, Vivian Davidson, Marie Witt, Doug Ennenberg, Jannika Nyberg
<b>RE STAFF</b>	Olivia Hall
<b>YOUTH COORDINATOR</b>	Aurora Eyolfson
<b>CONGREGATIONAL ADMINISTRATOR</b>	Marcus Hynes
<b>OFFICE ASSISTANT/ ORDER OF SERVICE</b>	Gordon Lowe
<b>BOOKKEEPER</b>	Lauren Stokes, Cheryl Amundsen, Louise Bunn
<b>LAY CHAPLAINS</b>	

**Regular 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](mailto:info@vancouverunitarians.ca) | **Web:** [www.vancouverunitarians.ca](http://www.vancouverunitarians.ca)

**Facebook:** [facebook.com/vancouverunitarians](https://facebook.com/vancouverunitarians) | **Instagram:** [instagram.com/vancouverunitarian](https://instagram.com/vancouverunitarian)

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[www.vancouverunitarians.ca/newsletter](http://www.vancouverunitarians.ca/newsletter).