



A pine tree growing out of the white-blossomed cherry tree on the UCV campus.

Embracing Our Future

Rev. Steven Epperson

April 5, 2020

Livestreamed from the UCV Sanctuary



Embracing the Future

Rev. Steven Epperson

Can I just come out and say it? *This is a pledge drive sermon.* The challenge and glory of every Unitarian congregation is that we define, govern and **finance** ourselves. We know these are unprecedented, uncertain times. As well, we trust each other and trust that we have a future together as a congregation—no matter what (!)—dedicated to spiritual growth, the search for truth and meaning, mutual support, and social justice. It's real. It's us. Let's celebrate that and give generously to our 2020-21 pledge drive to support the work and vision of our beloved congregation so that our journey may continue.

Livestream link: <https://ucv.im/live>



Embracing the Future

March 2020 statement from Rev. Steven Epperson & Board President Diane Brown

During this COVID-19 period, all face-to-face meetings on the UCV campus (and worship services in our church Sanctuary) are cancelled. The Sunday worship services will be livestreamed for the foreseeable future on the [UCV YouTube channel](#). Rev. Steven Epperson, Elliott Dainow, and our Worship Committee will continue to provide quality worship services that you can view at home. The UCV Board and other committees and working groups will continue to do their good work via Zoom meetings, email, and phone, and DRE Kiersten Moore and the religious education team are working on options to continue connection and support for families, children, and youth. The office staff continues to do their work during regular business hours (Monday to Thursday, 9:30 am to 2 pm; Friday, 9 am – 1 pm). Plans are in place to have Administration staff work from home if warranted, computer stations, email, phones/voicemail etc. have all been set up to enable minimal activity at the office.

Parents, Children, and Youth

We are putting in place some online connection times for children, tweens, youth, and parents. These times will stay consistent each week—drop-in any week to see familiar faces and new, connect and support each other in Unitarian fashion. (FUUN)!



Children's RE drop-in: Sundays 10:20—10:50 am ucv.im/kids-zoom

Mairy and Nan host children's time before the Sunday service live-stream. See each other, share a story and a simple activity or craft that we can do together at home. (Target age is 5-9)

Crossing Paths RE: Mondays 1:00—2:15 pm ucv.im/tween-zoom

Crossing Paths Tweens (ages 10-12) this space and time is for you! Check-in with each other, continue our explorations of World Religions—Quakerism, then Hinduism, and wherever your questions and wonderings lead us.

Youth Group! Sundays 3:00—5:00 pm ucv.im/youth-zoom

Youth in grades 8-12 meet to share, explore, come up with distant game time, and generally connect. Drop-in any Sunday—from near and far.

If you haven't been in touch yet—please take a few brief moments with this online form to let your RE team know how we can best serve you at this

time: <https://vancouver.breezechms.com/form/family-connections>

[Mystery Pals for All UCV Members](#)

Mystery Pals is on and kids are ready to start exchanging emails!

Celebration of Worship: April 5, 2020

Prelude *Eliyahu Hanovi** Trad.
Arr. E. Dainow

Opening Words/Greeting Neighbours Near and Far Rev. Steven Epperson

Kindling the Chalice Flame Rev. Steven Epperson

Opening Hymn *#1017: We Are Building a New Way*

Story for All Ages Told by Kiersten Moore

Welcome and Announcements Rev. Steven Epperson

Celebrations & Concerns

If you have a special celebration or concern to share, please email or call Rev. Steven Epperson (604-261-7204, ext. 223, rev@vancouverunitarians.ca). We'll collect them in the office and share them with you as appropriate.

Offering: *We deeply appreciate your presence here, your offerings and the gifts you share.* *If I Had a Million Dollars* Bare Naked Ladies
Adapted lyrics by Erin Moulding
Performed by Patrick Dubois, Gavin Grandish and E. Dainow

We continue to support the work of this congregation and our outreach opportunities recipient – the Aboriginal Mother Centre – through an online offering. You may use **text-to-give** now (Simply text an amount to 778-771-1707 to get started today, or visit <http://bit.ly/2VFEWDS> for more information!) or **donate online** through our private and secure Breeze interface.

Meditation, Spoken then Silent

Musical Response *Go Down Moses* Trad., Arr. David Millard
Performed by E. Dainow & Patrick Dubois

Embracing the Future

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Closing Hymn *#298: Wake Now My Senses*

Closing Words & 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

** Passover begins on Thursday and is a season of liberation. The translation is roughly: "Elijah the Prophet from Tishba in Gilead, May he soon arrive with the Messiah, son of David, bringing freedom." - Elliott*

UCV COMMUNITY EVENTS

A LIVING LIST OF ESSENTIAL LINKS: In recognition of the fact that it may be difficult for some to keep up with the deluge of information being communicated regarding online resources and meetings, the following is a condensed list of essential UCV community links:

- <https://ucv.im/live>: Livestream link for Sunday church services (active at 10:55am each Sunday morning)
- <https://ucv.im/coffee-hour>: Virtual coffee hour – every Sunday immediately following the service
- <https://ucv.im/give>: Instructions on how to make a donation/gift
- <https://ucv.im/events>: The most frequently updated list of UCV events
- <https://ucv.im/sermons>: A text-based archive of past services/sermons
- <https://ucv.im/core-documents>: An online repository for important UCV documents such as board minutes, annual reports, and so forth.

Many of our community gatherings have moved online, for a complete list of upcoming events, please visit <https://ucv.im/events>. If you would like to add your zoom event to the list please contact Marie Witt findmariewitt@gmail.com.

VIRTUAL COFFEE HOUR: Every Sunday, 12 – 1 pm. Watch our Sunday service and then join us for coffee. Visitors, members and friends are welcome! Join others for our virtual coffee hour every Sunday 12 noon to 1 pm. Visit <https://ucv.im/coffee-hour> to join!

NEIGHBOURHOOD GROUPS TUESDAY NIGHT ZOOM CHAT: Every Tuesday, 7 – 8:30pm. Get to know other Unitarians in your area! Neighbourhood Groups are a great way to spend Tuesday evening. We will sign into zoom together and then break out into smaller chat groups by neighborhood. Further information is available at <https://vancouverunitarians.ca/events/tuesday-night-zoom-chat-2020-04-07/>

BOOK (AND POEM AND VIDEO) SHARING VIA ZOOM: Every Wednesday, April 8, 10 – 11:30 am. You are invited to the book (and poem and video) sharing discussion via Zoom video conferencing. For more information, visit: <https://vancouverunitarians.ca/events/potluck-book-and-poem-and-video-club-via-zoom-2020-04-08/>

STEVEN'S TEA-TIME DROP-IN: Every Wednesday, 3 – 4:30 pm. Drop-in for a social gathering time hosted by Rev. Steven Epperson. It is a soul-fulfilling thing to see each other's faces in this time of physical distancing and isolation. Come check-in with each other, bring your joys, your challenges, your questions and insights, your whole selves. Visit <https://ucv.im/steven-tea> to join.

CHECK IN AND ZOOM PRACTICE: Every Thursday, 2 – 3 pm. Practice using Zoom with other Unitarians. Drop-ins welcome. Topics covered: mute on/off; video on/off; change name; chat (via text) to an individual or everyone; raising hand; thumbs up/clapping icons, etc. Visit <https://ucv.im/zoom-practice> to join.

FRIDAY COFFEE BREAK WITH KIERSTEN: Every Friday, 10:30 – 11:30 am. Work from home deserves a coffee break--and we all deserve to see each other! Family centered drop-in time for Parents. Kids and youth welcome--if you're able to login on a separate device from parents we can do break-out rooms! Visit <https://ucv.im/zoom-practice> to join.

THE UCV SECOND SUNDAY BOOK CLUB will meet ONLINE after the service on April 12, 2020 to discuss *The Alice Network*, by Kate Quin. *The Alice Network* is a fictional version of the little-known and inspirational real-life Alice Network, a group of women who worked as undercover spies, endangering their lives, and perhaps helping to win the wars against the Germans. It is a gripping story and we expect a lively discussion. We will not meet in person, but we WILL MEET ONLINE in a UCV Zoom conference. Sign in after 12 pm on April 12 at vancouverunitarians.ca and ask to join the Book Group breakout room. Join us if you are interested in this book and our conversation. Contact Rob Dainow at rdainow@gmail.com if you need more info.

MENDERS, NOW ONLINE: We have moved our monthly mending workshop (every fourth Saturday) to an online format to provide some social activities during this time of self-isolation. Put on your kettle and join us for conversation and clothing repairs. This is a casual, drop-in style meetup over Zoom. Email findmariewitt@gmail.com to join.

CANADIAN UNITARIAN COUNCIL 2020 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: The decision has been regrettably made to cancel the National Conference in May in Halifax. In light of the rapidly evolving situation, the CUC, together with the UU Church of Halifax Host Team, feel that holding a gathering in these times represents a potential risk to our members, staff and community and we fully support the recent recommendation from the Nova Scotia government to limit gatherings to 150 people. The cancellation of the in-person conference presents an opportunity for us to explore national online connections instead. For the latest information, please visit <https://cuc.ca/annual-general-meeting-conference/>.

SAVE THE DATE! A Farewell Soiree for Steven Epperson will take place at UCV the evening of Saturday June 20th. Mark your calendar!

UCV COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERS OF HELP: The UCV office has received several generous offers of help from volunteers who are willing to help out with grocery runs, housekeeping, etc. for those who may be in self-isolation or otherwise in need of some assistance. If interested, please contact Marcus at marcus@vancouverunitarians.ca to get connected.

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 for further information.

CALL OUT FOR FASHION ACCESSORY DONATIONS: The Refugee Fundraising Committee is delighted to be hosting a fashion show by well-known fashion historian Ivan Sayers on the afternoon of October 17. To coincide with this event we plan to have an accessory sale – lightly used (or new) scarves, costume jewelry, hats, belts, purses, gloves, etc. When you are putting away your winter garb this Spring and bringing out your fair weather attire, please consider donating a few items you haven't worn in a few years to this initiative. You can drop off your contribution at Julia Meyers' table in the alcove of Hewett Hall before and after service on Sundays. Any items that are not sold will go to a worthy charity.

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.

WEEKLY EMAIL WITH ORDER OF SERVICE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: The weekly email now gets sent out through Breeze, our new database system. 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 to view recent newsletters (and sign up to receive in your inbox.)

Next Sunday Service: April 12, 2020

Emily Carr: An Easter Pageant

THANK YOU TO THE SUPPORT TEAM TODAY:

**SOUND & LIVESTREAM TECH
CARETAKER(S)**

Galen Elfert, Christian Malcolm
Vivian Davidson



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, Karen Hertz,
Edgar Silveira, Vivian Davidson, Marie Witt,

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

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 | **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.