



(L: Chihiro from Miyazaki's 'Spirited Away', 2001;
R: Los approaching a threshold, William Blake)

Thresholds

Rev. Steven Epperson & DRE Kiersten Moore

[Live streamed](#) from the UCV Sanctuary – **May 3, 2020**



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Across millennia and cultures, many myths and stories share a common theme and structure: transformative journeys taken by unlikely heroes. A feature in these stories is the crossing of a threshold from ordinary to extraordinary realms. Are we living a hero's journey right now during these strange and trying times? Join Rev. Steven Epperson and our DRE, Kiersten Moore, for this all-congregation worship service.

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

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 have weekly [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) Email Kiersten for the password or to be on our family update list: dre@vancouverunitarians.ca



After the service there is a **Families breakout room during coffee-hour** for kids and parents to see and talk with each other. ucv.im/coffee-hour at Noon Sunday, type “family chat” into the chat when you join the meeting; or join any other conversation group!

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

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

Steven's tea-time drop-in Wednesdays 3:00—4:00 pm ucv.im/steven-tea

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.

Friday Coffee Break with Kiersten 11:30—12:15 am ucv.im/coffee-break

Being home deserves a coffee break--and we all deserve to see each other! Family centered drop-in time for Parents. If kids can login on a separate device from parents, we can do break-out rooms!

If you would like resources for Unitarian centered family time and activities to do with your children let me know using this form: <https://vancouver.breezechms.com/form/Sabbath-at-Home>

Celebration of Worship: May 3, 2020

Prelude *Scherzo (from the 'Spring Sonata')* Beethoven
Edgar Bridwell, violin & E. Dainow, piano

Opening Words/Announcements/Greeting Our Neighbours Rev. Steven Epperson

Kindling the Chalice Flame Kiersten Moore & Rev. Steven Epperson

Opening Hymn #346: *Come Sing A Song With Me*

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.

Story for All Ages *Rustle, Rustle, Rustle* By Kristin Maier
Told by Kiersten Moore

Meditation – Spoken, then Silent Kiersten Moore

Musical Response *Singing Spring* Written & performed by the Awakeners *

Thresholds

Rev. Steven Epperson

Offering: *We deeply appreciate your presence here, your offerings and the gifts you share.* *Spring Song* Mendelssohn
Edgar Bridwell, violin & E. Dainow, piano

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://ucv.im/give> for more information!) or **donate online** through our private and secure Breeze interface.

Closing Hymn #21: *For the Beauty of the Earth*

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

** This group, previously known as Solaris, has played for us several times and it's nice to 'have them back' again! – Elliott*

A LIVING LIST OF ESSENTIAL LINKS: The following is a condensed list of UCV community links:

- <https://ucv.im/live>: Livestream link for Sunday church services (active at 10:55am each Sunday morning)
- <https://ucv.im/order-of-service>: View an online version of the current Order of Service
- <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/steven-tea>: Steven’s Tea Time Drop-In: Every Wednesday from 3 – 4pm
- <https://ucv.im/coffee-break>: Friday Coffee Break with Kiersten, every Friday from 10:30 – 11:30 am.
- <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.

IMPORTANT! PLEASE NOTE: It has come to our attention that someone is using fake gmail accounts that appear to be sent from Steven (and possibly other administrators) to send emails directly to congregants. These emails are likely to appear in your inbox and are difficult to distinguish from our regular accounts.

These emails are asking people to send money, usually in the form of Amazon gift cards and typically contain a story about being needed for vulnerable people. **DO NOT** send money. **DO NOT** purchase Amazon gift cards. These are fake email addresses; Steven, staff or board members will never ask you to send money or amazon gift cards to them personally over email. We have specific fundraising drives and special protocols for donations.

If you are ever confused or suspicious about a request for funds, you can always ask if it's possible for you to speak with our staff over the phone. A scam artist pretending to be someone you know will not agree to a phone call, whereas church staff will always be happy to discuss fundraising with you or over the phone or face to face on zoom.

If you receive any suspicious emails, please report them to our office so we can track these attempts. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out. In the meantime, the UCV Board has hired a cyber security expert to help upgrade our systems.

UCV COMMUNITY EVENTS

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.

THE JUNE 14 EGM has been postponed to the fall. Instead, on June 14 at 12:30 pm, the UCV Board of Trustees will host a zoom information forum on the proposed budget for next year which the members will ratify (or not) in the fall. The Board will also be discussing possible next steps in the redevelopment process which would involve engaging Canada Land Trust in conversation as our possible new partners.

VIRTUAL COFFEE HOUR: Every Sunday, 12 – 1 pm. Watch our Sunday service and then join us for coffee. Visitors, members and friends are welcome! Visit <https://ucv.im/coffee-hour> to join! Password needed. contact ucvconnect@gmail.com in advance.

FORUM: 1ST ZOOM FORUM FOR UCV, presented by the Enviro Team online at 12:30 pm, Sunday, May 3. "*Watch For It - Future Salmon spawning channels in Farmlands of the Lower Fraser Valley*". Speaker: Lina Azeez of Watershed Watch Salmon Society will present by Zoom, with Q and A participation. Watershed Watch is a science-based NGO with many good news stories about their work. Kids and families: check out this 5 min. video: <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=vpg65zrCiHo>. Visit <http://ucv.im/forum> for more information or to join.

NEIGHBOURHOOD GROUPS TUESDAY NIGHT ZOOM CHAT: Once a month on the first Tuesday at 7:30 pm. 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/community/neighbourhood-groups/>

ALL-AGES BOOK AND VIDEO SHARING VIA ZOOM: Every Tuesday at 4 pm. Paula and Mary invite you to share what you're reading and watching via Zoom. For more information, visit: <https://vancouverunitarians.ca/all-ages-book-group/>

STEVEN'S TEA-TIME DROP-IN: Every Wednesday, 3 – 4 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.

ZOOM PRACTICE: Every Thursday at 2 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://vancouverunitarians.ca/zoom-practice/> for details. Contact Mary Bennett if you need password: ucvconnect@gmail.com

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.

GENDERS AND SEXUALITIES DIVERSITY ALLIANCE FILM DISCUSSION: Wednesday, May 6, at 7 pm. The UCV GSA is hosting a monthly check-in for Unitarians of any gender or sexuality. If you are not part of our regular group, please send an email to gsaucv@gmail.com in advance to introduce yourself and let us know a bit about why you'd like to join us. Our first gathering is asking everyone to share a LGBTQ+ friendly film, video or YouTube link and share why you're recommending it. Some people are sharing in the email group in advance as well. Sign in on zoom here: <http://ucv.im/gsa>. Out on Screen is also hosting queer films on Netflix party on Thursday evenings. Contact us if you'd like to know more.

THE 2ND SUNDAY BOOK GROUP will be meeting on May 10 via Zoom to discuss *When The Body Says No: the Cost of Hidden Stress* by Gabor Mate, MD. This well-known, engaging book draws a link between biological disease and its emotional and environmental pre-determinants backed by scientific research, personal experience and anecdotal evidence. The meeting will be led by Rhea Kikkert and technologically assisted by Rob Dainow. All are welcome. Please contact Rob Dainow if you wish to join the discussion (rdainow@gmail.com).

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

UCV CAMPUS REDEVELOPMENT PLAN NOW AVAILABLE: The final business plan report and letter of transmittal to the board from the planning committee has been posted on the UCV website: <https://vancouverunitarians.ca/blog/redevelopment>. The report will also be a topic at the virtual board forum on June 14th along with the 2020-21 budget for information. Information: Gordon Gram (gordongram@me.com) and Michael Clague (mclague@telus.net)

THE BOARD HAS ACTIVATED THE UCV SERVICE FUNDS to assist members, friends and staff of UCV who are in need of financial support. If you are in need or you know someone who is, please contact Steven, rev@vancouverunitarians.ca, 604-261-7206 or Patti Turner, pgaleturner@gmail.com, 604 889-3053. If you wish to contribute to this fund, please contact Aurora, ca@vancouverunitarians.ca, 604-261-7204, or John Taylor, johntaylor@shaw.ca, 604-731-9393.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! For services to continue to be virtual, we need to train some more members to learn how to produce and broadcast Sunday services and support our current incredible, overworked team. Anyone interested in helping with technology, send your details here: <https://ucv.im/offer-help>

OFFERS OF HELP: We have some volunteers at the church who are itching to be of service to anyone who might need it these days. Shopping? Gardening? Prescription pickup? A friendly phone call? Don't be shy. Don't be foolhardy. Have compassion for yourself if you're in want or need. Reach out. Someone will be there for you. Call or email Connie Wigmore (604-879- 6243 / cwigmore1@shaw.ca) or Patti Turner (604 879 6243 / pgaleturner@gmail.com)

BEACON UNITARIAN CHURCH MEMBER looking for a 1 or 2-bedroom rental in Metro or Greater Vancouver. Desire a safe, quiet, neighborly area, relatively close to shopping and transit. Extremely reliable and responsible renter with references. Non-smoker, own a car, no pets. I have been living in North Surrey for the past 1.5 year; must move because owners are selling. peggy.hinkley@gmail.com

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.

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 10, 2020
Mother's Day / Flower Communion

THANK YOU TO THE SUPPORT TEAM TODAY:

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

Galen Elfert, Christian Malcolm
Sam Shenher



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	Laureen 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, 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.