



Photo via unsplash.com

Voices of Thanksgiving

Rev. Lara Cowtan

[Live streamed](#) from the UCV Sanctuary – **October 11, 2020**



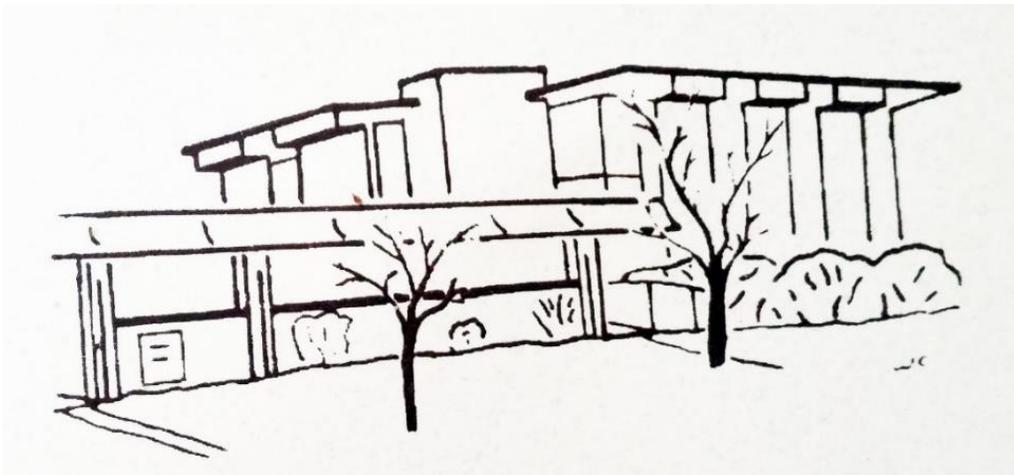
Sunday, October 11, 2020

Voices of Thanksgiving

Rev. Lara Cowtan

“Let us give thanks. It is in listening to the voices that have been silenced, to hear their truths, their stories, to appreciate richly diverse traditions and cultures, that we will discover the true meaning of Thanksgiving.

Live stream link: <https://ucv.im/live>



Fall COVID-19 Updates

We have released our Fall 2020 Go-Slowly-Forward Plan. Notable changes include:

- We have increased rental capacity for the Hewett Centre (main hall area only) from 10 to 15 guests
- The Sanctuary is now available for rentals with a maximum of 25 guests and 5 staff – choir loft remains Staff Only
- Masks are now mandatory for all indoor activities
- All windows and doors **MUST** remain open during indoor activities
- Worship services will continue to be online, live streaming only

To read the full plan and policy, including booking procedures, please see the full [Go Slowly Forward Plan](#).

Please note: All gatherings must be booked ahead of time through Marcus Hynes by emailing info@vancouverunitarians.ca

Parents, Children, and Youth

How to continue feeling connected and renewed in this virtual pandemic time? The Children and Youth Religious Exploration team has programs and ideas in the works—The list below is all of our regular drop-in virtual connections with Zoom ongoing this Fall.

Please contact Director of Religious Exploration, Kiersten Moore, to be notified about in-person outdoor meetups and special programs: dre@vancouverunitarians.ca

Holding connection space for kids and youth requires adult support!

Please visit the website to learn how you can be an adult member of our Family Ministry team. There are both large and small roles to fill: <https://vancouverunitarians.ca/cyre-volunteer/>
Fill out the form to “line up outside Kiersten’s door”: ucv.im/RE-volunteer

Online Connection Spaces

Coffee Hour Breakout rooms: Sundays 12:00—1:00 pm ucv.im/coffee

Weekly all-ages breakout room for kid-centered space led by member volunteers: see friends, check-in and play games. Or join any other conversation group!

Children’s activity and check-in: Sundays 10:20—10:50 am ucv.im/kids-zoom

Beginning September 13th, Nan and Mairy co-host this time specifically for children ages 5-9 (any age welcome). Activity or story ties in to our Soul Matters theme of the month. See each other, share a story and a simple activity or craft that we can do together at home.

Tween’s Ukelele Social: Sundays 3:30 – 4:30 pm ucv.im/tween-zoom

Kids in grades 5-7 (ages 10-12), learn to play ukulele (instruments loaned from UCV), hang-out together with games and activities based on our monthly Soul Matters Theme. Drop in any Sunday and get a registration link.

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.

Youth Dungeons and Dragons: Wednesdays 7:00—9:00 pm ucv.im/youthDnD

Exactly what you might think; an ongoing D&D campaign led by one of our youth, supported by adult advisors who are also in on the campaign. Youth-centered, multi-gen, role-playing fun. Contact [Olivia Hall](#) for more information, new characters are welcome to join.

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: October 11, 2020

Prelude	<i>October / Waltz</i>	Tchaikovsky* Elliott Dainow, piano
Invocation	<i>#1010: We Give Thanks</i>	
Welcome, Announcements & Greetings		Jennifer Fell
Kindling the Chalice Flame		Carrie Mac & Family
Opening Words		Rev. Lara Cowtan
Opening Hymn	<i>#67: We Sing Now Together</i>	Chalice Choir Leads
Story for All Ages	<i>The Pencil</i>	Susan Avingaq and Maren Vsetula Illustrated by Charlene Chua Read by Nan Gregory
Offering Invitation		Jennifer Fell
Offering: <i>We deeply appreciate your presence here, your offerings and the gifts you share.</i>	<i>#207: Earth Was Given as a Garden</i>	Chalice Choir Leads
<p>We continue to support the work of this congregation and our outreach opportunities recipient 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 secure Breeze interface.</p>		
Affirmation of Gratitude		Rev. Lara Cowtan
Community Candle Lighting		Laureen Stokes
Reading		Haudenosaunee Thanksgiving Address
Musical Response	<i>Blackbird</i> (sung in Mi'kmaq)	The Beatles Emma Stevens
Sermon	<i>Voices of Thanksgiving</i>	Rev. Lara Cowtan
Closing Hymn	<i>#298: Wake Now My Senses</i>	Chalice Choir Leads
Benediction		Rev. Lara Cowtan
Valediction	<i>Carry the flame of peace and love, until we meet again Carry the flame of peace and love, until we meet again</i>	

** As today is National Coming Out Day I am playing some Tchaikovsky who remained closeted his whole life. In the west we recognize his homosexuality, evident from letters he wrote, but in Russia it is still the topic of heated debate.*

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

- <https://ucv.im/live>: Live stream 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>: 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.

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 at communications@vancouverunitarians.ca

THE SECOND SUNDAY BOOK GROUP will meet after this Sunday service to discuss *Reproduction*, by Ian Williams, the 2020 Scotiabank Giller Prize winner – “a tale of love among inherited and invented families”. *Reproduction* is a profoundly insightful exploration of the bizarre ways people become bonded that insists that family isn't a matter of blood. All are welcome – go to ucv.im/coffee after the service and ask to join the Book Group breakout room.

ACTION EVENING: Wednesday, October 16 from 7 – 8 pm (log in at 6:45 pm). “*Roberts Bank Terminal 2 Project*” – Guest speaker, Roger Emsley, is one of the founders of a community group formed in 2004 to stop expansion of the Roberts Bank port in Delta. And, he is still confident the project can be stopped! He'll share the ups and downs of his journey. All are Welcome. Join the Zoom meeting: ucv.im/action-evenings

UCV CONGREGATIONAL HISTORY WALL INVITATION: Effective transition after a settled minister leaves starts with a collective review of how the congregation has been shaped and formed. It is a way to claim and honour our past, our major milestones and evolution and engage and honour our griefs and conflicts. It is done in a spirit of community and mutual respect.

You are invited to come to Hewett Centre to contribute to the UCV Congregational History Wall. A member of the Ministerial Transition Team will be there along with pens and big sticky notes for you to write your recollections and affix them at appropriate points. Photo contributions are also welcome.

Due to the COVID-19 guidelines for Hewett Centre, we are limited to 14 congregants at a time, during a one-hour session. You must book your session ahead. Masks and social distancing are required. The doors and windows will be open, so you will want to dress accordingly.

This may be the first time you have been to the campus in a while. You are welcome to come early or stay after and enjoy the campus grounds, walk the labyrinths, view the new benches and distance visit with one another.

We will also soon have a virtual (on-line) Congregational History Wall for those who prefer to contribute at-a-distance.

Please book a time below to come to Hewett Centre by contacting Leslie Hill at 604 321-7275 or email her at lesliehill49@gmail.com

- Wed Oct 14 10:30 - 11:30 am or 12:00 - 1:00 pm
- Sun Oct 18 1:00 - 2:00 pm or 2:30 - 3:30 pm
- Tues Oct 20 10:30 - 11:30 am or 12:00 - 1:00 pm
- Sun Oct 25 1:00 - 2:00 pm or 2:30 - 3:30 pm
- Wed Oct 28 10:30 - 11:30 am or 12:00 - 1:00 pm
- Sun Nov 1 1:00 - 2:00 pm or 2:30 - 3:30 pm
- Thurs Nov 5 10:30 - 11:30 am or 12:00 - 1:00 pm
- Sun Nov 8 1:00 - 2:00 pm or 2:30 - 3:30 pm

We look forward to welcoming you! – UCV Ministerial Transition Team

FORUM ON SANCTUARY UPGRADES: Sound, lights and Pews. Join Diane Brown and Galen Elfert for an information sharing session regarding possible upgrades to the Sanctuary. Sponsored by the UCV Board of Trustees. Sunday, October 25 at 12:30. Join us on Zoom via <https://ucv.im/forums>.

RECURRING ZOOM GATHERINGS: All the gatherings listed at vancouverunitarians.ca/zoom-gatherings.

- Virtual coffee hour; Sundays at 12 pm: <https://ucv.im/coffee>
- Neighbourhood group connections; 1st Tuesdays at 7:30 pm: <https://ucv.im/neighbourhoods>
- Zoom practice sessions; 1st Tuesdays from 4 – 5 pm: <https://www.ucv.im/zoom>

UCV COMMUNITY ACCOUNCEMENTS

WE'RE RECRUITING UCV BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 20/21: Just two opportunities left for members at-large. This is a special time to join our board leadership team. Our finances are in good shape. Our assets are in good condition. The board is exceptionally strong. As a member at-large you will participate in policy making, facilitate member communications and contribute to overall board work. You will liaise with at least one committee. Desirable skills: communications, standard computer literacy, and preferably experience in non-profit governance.

Another reason for joining; you will be part of the management of the church during this important period of interim ministry and the search for a new minister. Michael Clague will be delighted to hear from you. Chair, nominations committee: mclague@telus.net. Tel: 604-880-9464.

ATTN: COMMITTEE CHAIRS – REPORTS ARE COMING DUE! All committee chairs are asked to please submit their annual reports to Marcus (marcus@vancouverunitarians.ca) by October 31, 2020 for presentation at the November 15 AGM.

THE LIBRARY COMMITTEE is looking for a donation of metal shelving for the storage of book sale books. If anyone is able to donate shelves to us, please email davidfbuchanan@gmail.com.

AURORA EYOLFSON, who has been the UCV Church Administrator for the past 3 years, has left our employment. We are grateful to Aurora for her time and service with UCV, and wish her all the best for her future. The Transition Team is working with the staff and leadership to review the various roles and structures of UCV's ongoing staffing needs to plan for the future. In the short term, we ask for the patience and support of members as changes in our office may impact response time for administrative requests. We are blessed with amazing and motivated staff.

CARE AND CONCERN: A couple in our congregation are facing significant health problems, and have begun the search for someone to come into their home, more or less on a daily basis, to do kitchen prep and clean up for two-three hours daily. Payment to be arranged. They live in Kitsilano, near a bus stop. The groceries would have been bought already.

Please circulate this message as you see fit. Anyone interested or wanting to know more can phone/text me at 604.760.8652, or email cwigmor1@shaw.ca. Thanks so much, Connie

CLOSURE OF OAK STREET PARKING LOT ENTRANCE: For safety reasons, the Oak Street entrance to the UCV Parking lot will be closed indefinitely, starting August 15th. The Fremlin Street entrance will be the only access to the parking lot.

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES FUND: The OOF recipient for this Sunday's collection is The Treehouse Vancouver Child and Youth Advocacy Centre which has formed a multi-disciplinary team to intervene in and prevent child abuse and violence. The team comprises staff from VPD and three child and youth care agencies. Its' programs and services build networks and community support systems that promote safe and sustainable environments for children, youth and their families. A critical goal of the centre is to raise awareness of child abuse in Vancouver.

There is a new monthly e-bulletin! If you've signed up for our newsletters previously, you will automatically receive the new e-bulletin, but if not please go to vancouverunitarians.ca/e-bulletin/ to sign up or visit ucv.im/newsletter to see the latest copy.

Next Sunday Service: October 18, 2020

What is a Spiritual Path? Glenn Deefholts

In "What is a Spiritual Path?" Glenn Deefholts explores ideas that many people consider essential to a journey of spiritual understanding: spirit, soul, shadow, ego, self. Glenn gives illustrations of these ideas from his own life.

THANK YOU TO THE SUPPORT TEAM TODAY:

**SOUND & LIVE STREAM TECH
CARETAKER(S)**

Galen Elfert, Christian Malcolm
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

INTERIM MINISTER

Rev. Lara Cowtan

COMMUNITY MINISTER

Rev. Laura Imayoshi

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Kiersten Moore

CHOIR DIRECTOR

Donna Brown

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Elliott Dainow

CARETAKERS

Ben Yeung, Paul Nash, Karen Hertz,
Taka Shimojima, Vivian Davidson, Sam Shenher

RE STAFF

Doug Ennenberg, Jannika Nyberg

YOUTH COORDINATOR

Olivia Hall

CONGREGATIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

Aurora Eyolfson

OFFICE COORDINATOR/ 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.