



The Bulletin

Unitarian Church of Vancouver

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JUNE 2010

Sunday Services

All services begin 11 a.m.

June 6

Our Living Tradition

Rev. Dr. Steven Epperson

Why is UCV a vital, provocative, beautiful and meaningful place? Find out as we celebrate our shared ministry. A rousing annual worship service.

Note: this is also UCV Committees and Programs Day. Immediately after the service enjoy a “fair” in the UCV Courtyard—learn about the various ways that service in vibrant committees, programs and working groups helps to grow and enrich the life of our congregation.

Ingathering singing with Joyce Poley; Chalice Choir sings.

June 13

Re-imagining Reverence

Rev. Karen Fraser Gitlitz

Several years ago, UUA President Bill Sinkford ignited a small controversy, suggesting that UUs needed to return to a language of reverence. This morning Karen will share her own path to re-imagining reverence, and why she thinks it is a crucial part of reclaiming our voice as a liberal religious movement in Canada.

Music by Paul Gitlitz.

June 20

Bridging It

Rev. Dr. Steven Epperson

This Fathers’ Day, with ritual, music and the spoken word, we honour our young people bridging in and out of our Youth Group. As well, Rev. Epperson will be sharing thoughts about the vital role of religious education.

Music by UCV Youth.

June 27

Shake, Rattle, Roll and Repair

Rev. Dr. Steven Epperson

Summer is upon us, and the minister is about to go on vacation. Time to look back and reckon what we’ve gone through as individuals, as a congregation, and as a nation. (Canada Day is upon us yet again!) Is there a “story line” out there? Was the tumult worth it? And what about the year to come? Let’s take a look!

Music by Jeannie Corsi.

July 4

Rev. David Johnson

July 11, Part I

Timothy Piwonka-Corle

July 18, Part II

Timothy Piwonka-Corle

July 25

Debra Thorne

Inside

President’s Message	2
Child/Youth RE	2
Minister’s Workshop	3
Covenant Group Program	3
Profile, Maggie de Vries	4
Fostering Community	4
Affordable housing for all	5
Eliot Institute at Naramata	5
Summer Thrift Sale	6
Refugee Committee	6
Environment Committee	7
Library.....	7
First Friday Focus	8
Daytimers.....	8
Legacy Committee	8
Poetry, Peggy Woods	8
Our Children’s Table.....	9
Poetry, Thelma Mulholland	9
Painting, Pat MacBain	9
Calendar of Events.....	10
Forums	10
Vegan Bake Sale	10
Lunches	10

See you in September

During the summer, look online at www.vancouverunitarians.ca for Sunday service information.

Sunday service info will also be mailed out using the Bulletin postal list.

To join the email list, subscribe at: UCVBulletin@gmail.com to have info delivered directly to your inbox.

Submissions for Sept. Bulletin by Aug 14.

Notice of Meeting

Extraordinary General Meeting

June 13, 12:30 – 2:30 p.m.
Hewett Hall

Including consideration of the proposed 2010-2011 church budget.

The Bulletin is the newsletter of the Unitarian Church of Vancouver, distributed monthly from Sept. to June.

Submissions: By the 14th of the preceding month. Guidelines are available from the Church office.

Editor: Connie Wigmore

Send your submissions to
bulletin@vancouverunitarians.ca

Bulletin online, send your name and email address to

UCVBulletin@gmail.com

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President's Message

On the horizon

Kathryn Aberle (president@vancouverunitarians.ca)

As I write this, I am getting ready to go to the CUC ACM in Victoria over the May long weekend. This will be my first CUC conference and I am really looking forward to connecting with other Canadian Unitarians. It will be a weekend filled with lively debate on weighty issues, interesting workshops, and good conversation and music. By the time you read this issue of the Bulletin, most of the dust will have settled on the 2010 ACM, and the CUC Board and staff will be looking forward to another year of hard work on behalf of congregations across the country.

Here at UCV, the Board is putting the finishing touches on the 2010 - 2011 budget for presentation at the Extraordinary General Meeting on June 13. I hope many of you will be at the meeting as we once again consider the finances of the congregation and how best to do the things we hold dear with the money we have. You should expect to receive the Notice of Meeting in the first week of June and draft copies of the budget will be available in the church office at about the same time.

As the busiest part of the church year winds down, there are still many exciting things on the horizon. We will be hiring a permanent Director of Religious Education over the summer and our ministerial intern, Joe Cherry, will arrive to get ready for a busy fall and winter.

I wish all of you a lovely summer wherever your travels might take you or whatever you find yourself doing over the next three months. ■



Child and Youth RE Update

Endings and beginnings

Jennifer Fell, Acting Director, Religious Exploration
(lennifer@vancouverunitarians.ca)

We are nearing the end of our church school year before everyone heads off in their various directions for summer holidays, and I am nearing the end of my six months as acting DRE. Working here at UCV has given me an opportunity to meet many new people, and I have become even more aware of what a wonderful, diverse and interesting group of people come to our church. The children, families and volunteers who are part of the RE program all have so much to offer, and it has been a pleasure for me to be a part of it.

As the 2009/2010 year draws to a close, we are looking forward to the Youth Bridging Ceremony on June 20. Sasha Gomery will be bridging out of the Youth Group, heading off to university. As Lora Eadie finishes her Grade 7 year, she will be bridging into the Youth Group and joining their future adventures.

The CYRE Committee and I have also started to make some plans for the fall for Children's RE. We hope to have a 3 - 6 year old group, a 7 - 8 year old group and a 9 - 12 year old group. We are looking for some new volunteers to help (approximately twice per month) with teaching those groups. It's a great opportunity to work collegially and have fun with fellow volunteers, and to meet some wonderful children and families.

I want to wish all of you a relaxing summer ahead, full of long sunny days and time spent outdoors. ■



From the Minister's Workshop

Thoughts on the 30th anniversary of the assassination of Archbishop Oscar Romero

Rev. Dr. Steven Epperson

(minister@vancouverunitarians.ca)

A little over five years ago, UCV members mounted an Easter Pageant on *The Life, Death and Re-birth of Oscar Romero*, the Archbishop of El Salvador who was assassinated on March 24, 1980



by a right-wing death squad in San Salvador while officiating the Mass. As that Easter approached, I thought that his story profoundly embodied the great and enduring message of Easter. In a series of vignettes, UCV members brought Romero's story vividly to life. For me, and many of us, it was an unforgettable service. And I appreciated the opportunity for a Unitarian congregation to reach beyond our usual denominational confines to examine, learn about and celebrate the life of a person who grew—in his humble, halting way—to be a valiant advocate for the poor and the oppressed, and who paid for that advocacy with his life.

El Salvador is a small, beautiful

country in Central America; but a nation long blighted by a brutal feudalistic economic and cultural order that enriched a privileged few at the expense of a vast impoverished, largely rural and agrarian population. As well, the geo-politics of the Cold War warped the economies and political landscape of El Salvador, along with many other Central and South American nations. Hard men and regimes that advocated violent opposition to “communism” obtained sponsorship from the United States and other nations in exchange for a free hand to combat internal dissent—even if that took the form of trade union activism, agrarian reform, a free press, and the “up-dating,” the *aggiornamento*, of the Roman Catholic church. Speaking of the latter—celebration of the Mass in the vernacular, the “preferential option for the poor” that became the slogan of Liberation theologies in the church, the creation of “base communities” in which villagers learned to read, studied the bible, and gradually become aware of their rights were looked upon as subversive and “Marxist” by entrenched, conservative elites, and anathematized by reactionary leaders within the Catholic hierarchy. (Unfortunately, this included both John Paul II and Benedict XVI, both when they were Cardinals and when they became Pontiffs. The recent sex scandals in the RC Church make me think there's something to the ancient Greek idea of *nemesis*. But that's another story.)

Romero did not endorse the left's mysticism of violence. As well, for most of his life, he was actually quite

conservative theologically. But he came to ardently believe that the mounting oppression and naked violence unleashed against El Salvador's poor in the 1970s was a gross offense against the dispossessed, the “little people” of Christ, and against the gospel itself. And so, fatefully, he spoke out against violence on all sides, and government oppression with increasing frankness. His “freedom of the pulpit,” where he defended those least able to defend themselves, led to his death.

Thirty years later, thanks to an extraordinary piece of journalism in the online Salvadoran newspaper *El Faro*, his assassins have been identified, as well as those in power who plotted his death. Most have died, committed suicide; one lives in abject poverty and sheer loneliness in an undisclosed Latin American country. As well, only this year, Mauricio Funes (the candidate of the party founded by the leftist guerrillas opposed to the violent right wing juntas and parties of the 1970s-90s) won the presidential elections. A measure of peace and the process of reconciliation are at work in El Salvador. And for the first time, this Spring, an official commemoration of Archbishop Romero's death took place in the nation for which he gave his life.

Above the west doors of Westminster Abbey, Oscar Romero's sculpted portrait has joined those of Mother Elizabeth of Russia, Martin Luther King Jr. and Dietrich Bonhoeffer—four contemporary Christian martyrs. Sometimes, it takes far longer than three days for Easter to take place. ■

Covenant Group Program

Marg Fletcher

The Covenant Group Program has not been in operation this year. The numbers had been dwindling last year and there were not enough facilitators to make it a vibrant program. There have been several people who have expressed regret that there were no groups this year (and we know it's a wonderful way for new members to get to know a small group of others better) so let's try to begin again in September!

Needed: At least one person to coordinate the program. At least four people to facilitate a monthly group in their home or at the church (six would be better). If you would like to volunteer for this wonderful program, or just to get more information, contact Marg Fletcher (604-734-4935 or mfletcher508@gmail.com) ■

Member profile on **Maggie de Vries**

“When I come here, I don’t have to edit.”

Mary Bennett

Maggie de Vries is 100% Unitarian according to belief-o-matic but it took her some years to find her way to being a member of UCV. In 1995, Maggie de Vries and her husband got married in our church, because a friend of her mother’s was attending and recommended it. Maggie liked the space and the experience and “that was the end of it.” At the time, Maggie wasn’t looking for a church.



But in 1998, “I needed some spiritual sustenance and this seemed like a good place.” Maggie’s sister, Sarah, who was doing sex work and using drugs, had disappeared from the Downtown Eastside. Later it was determined that Sarah had been murdered and Maggie set out to find out what happened. This resulted in writing and publishing her memoir, *Missing Sarah*.

A memorial for the missing women was held May 12, 1999, partly in the First United Church and partly outdoors in CRAB Park. Maggie asked then minister Rev. Sydney Morris to officiate, and this drew Maggie closer to the

Church. Like many, she found people at UCV that she’d known from other areas of her life.

In 2000, Maggie was commuting to Victoria every week and stopped attending regularly. Recently she attended the New U Workshop, and met with Rev. Steven Epperson one-on-one for an hour. She found this process very helpful in finding her place at UCV. “What brings me here is grief. And I felt I was kind of a downer for others.” After meeting with Steven and formally joining, “I could start to imagine a place for myself here.”

“It’s been a long time in and out. In the past, I’ve been very happy just coming to the services, but now feel I should be more involved.”

Maggie has joined the Library Committee and among other roles, has initiated UCV Library Committee support for a Downtown Eastside women’s reading group. You are invited to donate the selected titles (posted in the library) or funds through UCV to the Beyond Words program.

In summary, Maggie feels, “It’s a wonderful church. When I come here, I don’t have to edit. It’s so open and accepting of such a wide range of beliefs.” Maggie appreciates the service orientation, the rituals and the variety of music.

“But it initially felt impenetrable for me. I had to work to find a way in.” She appreciated welcoming phone calls, the New Unitarian Workshop and Breakfast and meeting with our minister as ways to help her, and other people, find their way.

You can read more about Maggie, her work and published books at <http://www.maggiedevries.com/> ■

Fostering Community

Ann Foster (afos72@vcn.bc.ca, 604-736-2117)



There appears to be only one high school grad in our midst this year, **Sasha Gomery**, who is headed for Acadia University in Nova Scotia this fall. He is inclined toward liberal arts, perhaps history and philosophy, with a minor in theatre. Best of luck, Sasha, we know you’ll do well!

Lily Ha welcomed her second grandson on April 23, when little Aaron arrived, weighing in at 7 lbs 4oz, to the delight of Grandma, Lily’s son Mark and wife Miranda. He joins Trevor, now 26 months, who, when he had his first glimpse of his tiny brother, was heard to exclaim (in Mandarin), “What is this!”

Jeannie Corsi will be in Boston this month for a very special graduation. Her 92 year old mum, Anita Winer, will be receiving a diploma in a special ceremony, having completed a four-semester, two-year course in Jewish history and thought. The work included one hundred hours of lectures

plus many more hours of research. What is all the more remarkable is that Anita had to rely on audiotapes because, due to macular degeneration, she is blind! Four generations of family will be there to honour Anita.

Reluctantly, we must say *arrivederci* to **Elena Fumi**, who will be returning to her permanent home and job in Pisa, Italy, at the end of July. She has enjoyed getting to know us and our church during the past two and a half years, as well as teaching Italian language and literature at UBC. She has also found time in her busy schedule to attend our Circle Dinners, sometimes as a hostess in her lovely Oakridge apartment. We’ll miss you, Elena, and hope you’ll come back for a visit. Or maybe some of us will visit you if we’re in Pisa, where you can show us the leaning tower.

Finally, don’t miss **Julia Myer’s** wonderful poppy seed cake recipe in *The Refugee Committee Cookbook*. Those who have helped with thrift sale sorting know of Julia’s baking talent. Not only is it delicious, it really is as easy as she says.

It’s also easy to send your news to Fostering Community! See you in two months, and have a great summer! ■

Social Justice Committee

Affordable housing for all

Housing and Homelessness Action Group

The third and final reading of Bill C-304, an act to ensure secure, adequate, accessible and affordable housing for Canadians, is scheduled for a vote in Parliament in June. This act would require the federal government to work with all levels of government and stakeholders to develop a pan-Canadian strategy to end homelessness and pave the way to ensuring adequate housing as a fundamental human right for everyone in Canada. The bill gives explicit recognition to the human right to housing, as encoded in international human rights law. Were it to pass into law, the bill would ensure a pan-Canadian housing strategy rooted in this human rights framework.



What can you do in support of a national housing strategy?

1. Write a letter in support of Bill C-304. Take a few minutes to write a personal letter (handwritten, typed or email) to your MP and to Conservative and Bloc MPs to tell them you care about this issue. When writing to Bloc and Conservative MPs, you may want to reference the networks of which you are a part (e.g., Unitarians across the country, etc.) so they are aware that although they are not your MP, you have connections with other people who may be part of their electorate.
2. Read Steven Epperson's sermon of January 24, 2010, *The One Thing We Could Do*, at <http://www.vancouverunitarians.ca/cms/site/pid/37>
3. Join UCV's Housing and Homelessness Action Group email list to keep up to date with the progress of this Bill in Parliament and in the Senate. Email lkemp@telus.net to be added to the Social Justice Committee's Housing and Homelessness Action Group.
4. Join the Facebook group, Unitarians Supporting a National Affordable Housing Program, at <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=115511475153213>. Mary Bennett set this group up at press time, 112 people from across the country had already joined! Or, join the Facebook group, *Support a National Housing Strategy*, which has 1,120 members. ■

Eliot Institute at Naramata

Diane Donaldson

(604-224-0933, donaldsond@telus.net)

Eliot Institute is both a camp conference and a vacation. It is a one-of-a-kind intergenerational experience of stimulating speakers, discussions, music, activities and worship for the whole family. Eliot is a Welcoming Community for individuals, couples, and families of all configurations.

This year's Eliot Camp at Naramata BC runs from July 3-10, and features Barbara and Jaco ten Hove as the speakers. Their talk is titled *GUUD NUUS: The Gospel of Our 21st Century Liberal Faith*. They say *gospel* means *good news* and Unitarian Universalism has lots of positive purpose and melodic meaning to go around. Our contemporary UU message is grounded in an inspirational heritage, infused with inclusive theology, dedicated to community-building, and animated by excellent music.

Come explore how all this can deepen personal lives, strengthen relationships and impact the world in powerful ways. For over sixty years, Eliot campers have laughed and sung and talked and splashed and enjoyed nature's beauty together. And you're invited!

Learn more at www.eliotinstitute.org and click on *July at Naramata*. Or contact Diane Donaldson. ■

Naramata

HI KIDS, I'M MARMY THE NARAMATA MARMOT. THERE'S SO MUCH TO DO AT ELIOT SUMMER CAMP. I HOPE YOU CAN COME!

ELIOT INSTITUTE JULY 3 -10, 2010.
EMAIL: ELIOTREGISTRAR@GMAIL.COM.
WEB: HTTP://WWW.ELIOTINSTITUTE.ORG/

cool camp for UU families

(C) 2010. JAMM AND EMILY MOON

The Summer Sunday Thrift Sales are coming in July and August!

Denise Nereida

We need your help with this major church fund-raiser in the following ways:

Donate good quality items to the sale. Remember, we are only offering Books, Classy Clothes, Electrical and Treasure Trove, as these were the money makers in previous years. At the end of this article you will find a detailed list of what we want for each department. Lists of what we are accepting and not accepting are also posted in Hewett Hall. Please note that other than books, we cannot accept donations until the end of June because of a lack of storage space. **Volunteer** to help sort donations on Tuesdays, 1-4 p.m. or Thursday evenings, 7-9 p.m. We also need helpers to sell on Sundays, after services until about 2 p.m.

Shop on Sundays. We will start sales early in July, other than books, which will be sold starting the second Sunday in August. Remember that there is no public sale this year, but we encourage you to bring your bargain-loving friends and neighbours along with you on Sundays.

Donations needed:

Classy Clothes wants your classic separates, outerwear, accessories and unusual items. Contributions need to be clean and in good repair.

Treasure Trove needs good stationary, artwork, good picture frames, collectibles, fine linens, hobby and art materials, non-plastic bowls, fine china mugs, coins, good quality Christmas ornaments, candles (unused!), and any other wonderful treasures you may have.

The Electrical section will accept, in working condition only, small kitchen appliances, home stereo equipment, speaker sets, DVD players, CD portable cassette players with radio built in, quality lamps, solar equipment, calculators. Computers: Mac or PC, keyboards, mice, etc. (less than five years old). Electric bicycles, electronic games, electric tools, battery chargers, vacuums. Not acceptable at all are: televisions, walkmans, cassette players unless with radio built in, microwaves.

Please send **Books** only, in good condition.

Contact Denise Nereida for further information. (djaynereida@hotmail.com , 604-731-7630) ■



The Refugee Committee

Virginia Crabill, Refugee / Social Justice Liaison (604-731-1730)

Fundraisers

Thanks so much for your support in attending both the Metro Theatre's play on May 11, and the film *Tar Angel*. For the play, we had a full house, and everyone enjoyed themselves thoroughly! The money raised from *Tar Angel* will help provide for the two new Palestinian families, who will be coming from Al-Hol refugee camp in Syria, providing the bureaucratic hurdles can be cleared.

Join us June 19, 6:00 p.m. at the Roundhouse for *Burma Night for the Lady*. This commemorates the birthday of Aung San Suu Kyi. She is the elected leader of Burma / Myanmar and Burma's only Nobel Laureate.

She is also the only Nobel Laureate under detention.

The Roundhouse Community Arts and Recreation Centre is at the corner of Davie and Pacific. Tickets, which we will be selling, are \$30. All proceeds go to Assistance Association for Political Prisoners. For more information, please contact free-burma@live.ca , or Deanna at 604-331-4454.

This special evening, replete with Burmese cuisine, music and cultural performances, is presented under the auspices of the Pacific Burma Round Table (PBR) which meets the third Tuesday of every month in Hewett Hall, in Budny at 7 p.m.

(Continued on page 7, Refugee Reform Bill, C-11)

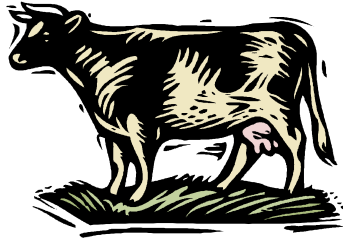


Environment Committee

Meat

Karl Perrin, Chair
(604-872-7326)

Compassion is a muscle that gets stronger with use, and the regular exercise of choosing kindness over cruelty would change us.



p. 258, *Eating Animals* by J.S.Foer.

Is the world changing faster than ever? We have a choice: to learn and change, or wait and see. I bought *Eating Animals* reluctantly because I knew it would change me. Happily, it's a good read. Foer, a successful novelist and new father, pursued the meaning, as well as the facts, of modern industrial meat production.

I knew global corporate meat was bad: cruel, unhealthy, profit-driven, and polluting, with a huge carbon footprint (worse than transportation). I didn't know it was evil.

So now what do I do? One night, as I finished this book, I went to my local supermarket. Signs read *Meat and Seafood Expert* and *Extreme Value*. Usually I just hunt for bargains. But this time I noticed there were no eyes anywhere--no one watching, no one suffering, no eyes in pain, only bargains. It was very strange. Someone else did the butchering, and now it was wrapped, almost free, like a gift. Would it be rude to refuse such...hospitality?

At sunset, I saw a coyote and we stared deeply into each other's minds. I know too much now. I know freedom and love, and I know their opposite: industrial meat production. I must refuse, and that's not easy.

The Environment Committee will meet on Sunday, June 20, 12:30, in Lindsey-Priestley. All welcome. ■

UCV Library Committee

Making a difference

Elizabeth Murdoch

Our Refugee Committee does amazing work with people who come to Vancouver for refuge. **Where do they come from and why?**



Try these books:

Infidel by Ayaan Hirsi Ali

Fear's Empire by Benjamin R. Barber

Free the Children by Craig Kielburger. The horrible conditions that many children endure in parts of the world (India, Thailand, Pakistan, Bangladesh) are well documented. *Free The Children* has shown that one person or a small group of people can make a difference.

A Woman among Warlords: The Extraordinary Story of an Afghan Who Dared to Raise Her Voice by Malalai Joya. This young female parliamentarian in Afghanistan has bravely denounced the NATO-backed warlords resulting in her suspension from government and living at risk in her own country.

The Trouble with Islam by Irshad Manji

The Ethnic Cleansing of Palestine by Ilan Pappé.

Descent into Chaos by Ahmed Rashid.

War Plan IRAQ by Milan Rai.

None is Too Many by Irving Abella & Harold Troper. An important study of the discriminatory immigration policies Canada had in the interwar period.

Magazines:

The New Internationalist – the people, the ideas, the action in the fight for global justice.

The Economist

The Refugee Committee has recently donated some books. Once catalogued, we will list them in this column.

For further information please contact: Aphrodite Harris, Library Chair (604-987-5339, aphrodite_harris@telus.net) ■

(Continued from page 6)

Refugee Reform Bill, C-11

The proposed Refugee Reform Bill, Bill C-11, continues to be problematic. Check it out on the Canadian Council of Refugees website at www.ccrweb.ca/billC-11. There you'll find more information, and a model letter, to explain why this bill should be sent to committee for study before its second reading in the House.

Among other things, it puts the most vulnerable refugees at risk of being deported to persecution.

The Bill proposes hearings within two months of appeal. This is neither realistic nor fair for most refugees.

If you disagree with this bill, **please** contact your MP!

The Refugee Committee meets the fourth Sunday of each month at 12:30 in Castello. We always welcome visitors, and new members!

If you wish to assist us financially, you can put your donation into an envelope in the offering basket or bring it to the UCV office. Please write on the cheque memo *For the Sheilah Thompson Refugee Fund*.

For more information, contact the Co-Chairs, Fiona Graham (fiona.graham@sd41.bc.ca) or Virginia Crabill ■

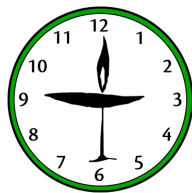
Daytimers

Annual picnic

Wanda Justice (604-327-1851)

Daytimers will meet only once this month, Thurs., June 10, for their annual BYOBag lunch picnic and strawberry shortcake extravaganza.

If you plan to attend, phone Wanda, 604-327-1851, or Joan, 604-731-8776, for details of time, place and transport. (The latter is in limited supply.) ■



First Friday Playtonics

Philosophy Slam

Randall MacKinnon, Moderator
(604-582-4651)

Friday June 5, 7 - 9 p.m., Hewett Centre



If you like the charades of Pictionary, you'll love Philosophy Slam. The participants will each have a chance to draw an interesting quote from a barrel, and then say something (intelligent, funny, whatever...) about it - to the delight of onlookers and onlisteners.

Our facilitator, Mark, is an inveterate Philosophers' Cafe attendee, thinker and computer service person with a great, if sometimes fractured sense of humour. He has previously offered this program to Philosophers' Cafe in Maple Ridge, to a great response. ■



Unitarian Music Club Solstice Party

The Unitarian Music Club's Solstice Party will take place on Monday, June 21, at 7:30 in the Fireside Room.

The evening will consist of a short informal concert with performances by Noel Armstrong, David Donaldson, Masako St. James, Songtree, and others, followed by a celebration.

The Music Club welcomes all styles of acoustic music and performances are arranged in advance. If you would like to perform, come and we will set a date.

Everyone is welcome. When you come, please bring a contribution to refreshments.

More information: Jeannie Corsi (604-224-1040, nichorsi@interchange.ubc.ca) or David Donaldson (604-224-6010, dvdd@telus.net). ■

CUC poetry chapbook

Even This Grey Dawn

Keith Wilkinson

Even This Grey Dawn, the fourth annual poetry chapbook published by the CUC and released at the 2010 Annual Conference and Meeting in May in Victoria, is a collection of 26 poems by fifteen Unitarian writers from across Canada. This year's book is dedicated to the late Joan Van der Goes of Nanaimo and the late Peggy Woods, a long time, well-known member of UCV. Thelma Mulholland, also a long-time member of our church, has emerged as another UCV poet. Both women had poetry selected through a blind jury process for inclusion in the collection.



Copies of the poetry chapbook *Even This Grey Dawn* can be purchased for \$7 from the CUC at www.cuc.ca or by writing to 100-344 Dupont Street, Toronto, ON, M5R 1V9.

Pilgrimage to My Mother in an Extended Care Unit

by Peggy Woods

Ancient shrine, source of my beginning
And the harbinger of my end,
Cameoed against the pillow, your face
Carved in sleep is aged, ageless.
Where do you go behind that mask?

I pay homage here to the great riddle:
The life that runs from you and me,
To our children's children, and beyond
To the waiting generations.
Do you know when I come to pay homage?

Strange to pay homage to so frail a shell.
The mind wrenched clear of mothering
And the body failing, fading, falling
Down into dissolution and death.
Mother, what is death?

In Memoriam

You can ask friends and relatives to make gifts in memory of loved ones that have received their spiritual nurture from our Church, by asking them to give to the Endowment Fund of the Unitarian Church of Vancouver, in lieu of flowers. A special offertory box is available now at both exits of the Sanctuary.

Rainer Borkenhagen, Legacy Committee (604-221-6631)



UCV's education agency pilot program

Our Children's Table pilot comes to a close

Leslie Kemp, Chair, Advisory Committee for Our Children's Table



On June 8, the piloting of UCV's new food program, Our Children's Table, will conclude. This program, which began in early January, built upon what worked best in the previous Food Bank program delivered for many years in partnership with the Greater Vancouver Food Bank Society. The co-coordinators, Diana Epperson and Laureen Griffin, contributed a tremendous amount of creative energy, long hours and hard work throughout the program. Their vision was a program that provided quality, nutritious food for participants (lacking in the previous Food Bank) combined with pre-literacy programs for pre-school children and their caregivers. In addition, there were presentations each week on topics of interest to participants and the opportunity to share in snacks and a lunch prepared by volunteers. The Coordinators, in collaboration with the many UCV and community volunteers, transformed our food program from a food bank depot that provided a range of complementary services serving up to one hundred or more people each week to a place where parents and caregivers of preschool children could share food together, learn with one another and take home nutritious food.

At the start of program, Diana Ellis volunteered her services as a professional evaluator. The evaluation framework was developed in consultation with key stakeholders including the coordinators, committee members and other volunteers. After the pilot program wraps up, Diana will continue to gather feedback from participants, volunteers, program partners, the coordinators and committee members to shape the report. We look forward to deliberating on this report to learn from our experience and inform recommendations for future program directions.

On behalf of the Advisory Committee, I would like to express my deep appreciation for the contributions of Diana and Laureen, all of the UCV volunteers, to those who donated funds to support the program and to congregants who supported the program with donations of cheese, peanut butter and other food. ■

With You

by Thelma Mulholland

In nature, nothing is ever created or destroyed.
What was, is, and will forever be
Though form may change.

And so you and the past
Are still present
Not only within
But beyond me.

I like to think that in some other world,
Another universe,
My memories are time traveling
Into infinity with you.



Allotment garden III, by Pat MacBain

If you love this church, pledge!

UCV Calendar – June 2010

Wed. 2	7 - 9 p.m., Evening session of UCV Programme Coordinating Council, Hewett	Fri. 18	5:30 - 7:30 p.m., Spaghetti Dinner, Hewett Hall
Fri. 4	7 - 10 p.m., First Friday Focus, Fireside	Sun. 20	12:30 - 1:30 p.m., Forum, Fireside 10 - 2 p.m., Green Market, Alcove 1 - 3 p.m., New Women's Group, Lindsey-Priestley
Sat. 5	9:30-11:30 a.m. Morning session of UCV Programme Coordinating Council, Fireside	Mon. 21	7 - 9 p.m., Sacred Circle Dancing, Fireside 6:30 - 9:30 p.m., UCV Music Club, Sanctuary
Sun. 6	11 - 12 p.m., Member Recognition 12:30 - 1:30 p.m., Forum, Fireside 10 - 2 p.m., Green Market, Alcove 12:30 - 2 p.m., UCV Book Club, Budny	Wed. 23	7 - 9:30 p.m., Pagan Group, Fireside 7 - 9:30 p.m., Covenant Groups, Budny
Wed. 9	7 - 9:30 p.m., Pagan Group, Fireside	Sat. 26	1 - 3 p.m., Visual Arts Group, Lindsey-Priestley
Thurs. 10	11 a.m. - 2 p.m., Daytimers, Annual Picnic	Sun. 27	12:30 - 1:30 p.m., Forum, Fireside 1 - 3 p.m., New Women's Group, Lindsey-Priestley ■
Fri. 11	7 - 10 p.m., Friday Friendship Group, Fireside		
Sun. 13	12:30 - 2:30 p.m., Extraordinary General Meeting, Hewett Hall		
Mon. 14	7 - 9 p.m., Sacred Circle Dancing, Hewett Hall		

UCV Forums

Mary Bennett

Sundays from 12:30-1:30pm in the Fireside Room. All are welcome.



June 6

Environment Committee
The Possibility of Hope

We will watch the twenty seven minute documentary of the same name, that has themes of environment, social justice, economics, and globalization, and then have discussion and activities based on it.

Facilitator: Alexandra Henriques

June 13

Extraordinary General Meeting

June 20

Children's Religious Education
Nan Gregory and Jennifer Fell

The topic of this year's pre-CUC conference module on CRE was centred on the concept that *we teach who we are*. Nan Gregory will reflect on her deep connection to stories and storytelling and will illustrate how this is manifested in her work with our children.

June 27

Social Justice Committee
No oil tankers on BC. Coast;
No Enbridge pipeline from tar sands to Kitimat
Andrea MacDonald

Worldwide Vegan Bake Sale

Denise Swanson

To all who made the May 2 Worldwide Vegan Bake Sale a great success - those who purchased and those who donated baked (and raw!) goods - many thanks! We raised \$429 for UCV's Green Fund while promoting awareness of how delicious a compassionate diet can be.



Photos of this event have been posted on Flickr at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/7706887@N03/collections/72157624029985626/>

Meals on Wheels

Interested in volunteering?
Phone Jill, 604-733-9177, ext. 107

June Lunches

Doris Lowe (604-435-6183)

June 6: Refugee Committee (fundraising for Farahnaz)

June 13: Refugee Committee



Please contact Doris if your group would like to sponsor a Sunday lunch.