



# The Bulletin

## Unitarian Church of Vancouver

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www.vancouverunitarians.ca Fax: 604-261-7205



JUNE 2011

### Sunday Services

All services begin 11 am.

**June 5**

*Our Living Tradition*

**Rev. Dr. Steven Epperson**

Why is UCV a vital, provocative, beautiful and meaningful place and community? Find out as we celebrate our shared ministry: that's you and all of us. A rousing annual worship service.

*Music with Elliott Dainow and with the Chalice Choir.*

**June 12**

*This Could be the Place*

**Rev. Joe Cherry**

Join our interim minister, the Rev. Joe Cherry, for a service about community and its strengths. Is this the place that you can bring your friends? Where you can find depth and meaning? This is Joe's final address to the congregation and marks the completion of his internship at Unitarian Church of Vancouver.

*Ingathering singing at 10:45 am with Joyce Poley.*

**June 19**

*Bridging It*

**Rev. Dr. Steven Epperson and UCV Youth**

This Father's Day, with ritual, music and the spoken word, we honour those young people bridging out and into our UCV Youth Group—a transcendent experience as they cross significant life thresholds.

*Music with Simon Marmorek and friends.*

**June 26**

*Setting out for Summer and Beyond*

**Rev. Dr. Steven Epperson**

Summer is upon us; the minister goes on vacation. Time to look back and forward to high points, achievements, and challenges. It's been quite a year for our congregation, city, province and nation.

Time to take stock of the good resources of spirit, faith, and hope we possess and need in order to carry us forward.

*Music by Roy Zimmerman, UU singer songwriter ([royzimmerman.com](http://royzimmerman.com)).*

### Extraordinary General Meeting

*Sunday, June 12, 12:45 – 2:45 pm*

Registration will begin at 12:00 noon in Hewett Centre

- Approval of appointment/re-appointment of Lay Chaplains
- Approval of the annual budget
- President's report
- Report on strategic planning session, May 2011
- Report on the 50th Annual CUC ACM in Toronto, May 2011
- Report and discussion of the work of the 2010-11 Site Development Committee

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Save trees—  
read *The Bulletin* online!

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

> News > Monthly Bulletin



at the Unitarian Church of Vancouver

### GRAND OPENING

First farmers' market in South Vancouver  
Wednesday June 1 2 – 3 pm at UCV

Featuring

\* Andrea Reimer  
Vancouver City Councillor

\* Rex Weyler  
Greenpeace Int'l Co-Founder, Author)

\* Mary Forstbauer  
Organic Farming Leader

Music by

\* Tara Bonham and David Donaldson

\* ErRatica.

Market day every Wednesday 3 – 7 pm

**The Bulletin** is the monthly newsletter (Sept. to June) of the Unitarian Church of Vancouver.

**Editor:** Connie Wigmore

**Submissions:** By the 14<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding each issue. Guidelines are available from the Church office or from the editor.

**Email your submissions or comments to:**

[bulletin@vancouverunitarians.ca](mailto:bulletin@vancouverunitarians.ca)

**To subscribe by email,** send your name and email address to:

[ucvbulletin@gmail.com](mailto:ucvbulletin@gmail.com)

#### UNITARIAN CHURCH OF VANCOUVER

##### Parish Minister

Rev. Dr. Steven F. Epperson

##### Minister Emeritus

Rev. Dr. Phillip Hewett

##### Community Minister

Rev. Laura Imayoshi

##### Ministerial Intern

Rev. Joe Cherry

##### Lay Chaplains

Phyllis Bassett, Dan Enright,

Sherry King, Wayne Ulian

##### BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2010-2011

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#### President's message

## Revisoning our Unitarian community

Keith Wilkinson ([president@vancouverunitarians.ca](mailto:president@vancouverunitarians.ca))

I've been struggling this year with the question of how we can provide effective overall lay leadership within a congregation whose members are highly committed to a variety of spiritual and ethical paths. If acceptance of diversity in spiritual impulse is one of our fundamental strengths, as I believe it is, what are the common needs of this diversity? Firstly, we benefit from a physical setting accessibly located in Vancouver that tangibly reflects our commitment to openness and beauty. Secondly, financial support for core operations is critical to enable our diverse interests to thrive.

We will always need to rely upon member pledges to meet our financial needs. As individuals it is appropriate that we commit money generously to the core infrastructure of the church that makes our diverse explorations possible and without which our particular spiritual and ethical interests would not be advanced.

There is also a consensus emerging within the congregation regarding the direction proposed by the site development committees of recent years. *The emerging consensus that I observe is that we should re-vision our church as a centre committed to diverse spiritual expression, with an emphasis on musical, artistic, spiritual, environmental and social initiatives, and that we should attend promptly to the discovery and fostering of good partnerships and the refinement of our facilities to support this vision.*

We have already started down this path. In recent months we have been able to identify longer-term rental prospects with several community organizations who share common values and are committed to paying their fair share for the use of our facilities. We can and should pursue this option skillfully and persistently.

My perception of this vision for UCV was reinforced by attendance at the CUC's 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference and

Meeting in Toronto over the May 2011 long weekend with about a dozen others from UCV and approximately 1,000 from across Canada.



One of the workshops I attended, *To See, To Be, To Do: Primary Perspectives of World Religions* (web: <http://worldreligions.ca> twitter: [@EncounterWorld](https://twitter.com/EncounterWorld)) analyzed fourteen dimensions of three world religious traditions. The workshop leader, J.W. Windland, described these as *India, Balance* and *Mid-East* traditions, and it occurred to me that Canadian Unitarians draw heavily in outlook from *India* and *Balance* traditions, yet conduct much of our programming around *Mid-East* traditions.

The practical insight for me from this brief comparative religion seminar was a strengthened belief that diversity is an absolutely central dimension of Canadian Unitarian faith, and that we need to affirm that fact more emphatically, building our congregational life around that central premise.

I hope we can continue this discussion of re-visioning at the UCV AGM scheduled for June 12, 2011. See you there!



A video of the Sunday Service at the 2011 CUC ACM with more than 1300 participants can be seen at: [mediacast.ic.utoronto.ca/20110522-CUC/index.htm#](http://mediacast.ic.utoronto.ca/20110522-CUC/index.htm#) and more ACM videos & info are at <http://www.cuc50.ca/> and <http://vimeo.com/unitarians>.

Follow the CUC now on Twitter [@uuCanada](https://twitter.com/uuCanada)

From the minister's workshop

## We are not the future, we are the NOW!

Rev. Dr. Steven Epperson ([minister@vancouverunitarians.ca](mailto:minister@vancouverunitarians.ca))

These words were expressed by UCV's Casey Stainsby, the Youth Advisor to the Board of Trustees of the Canadian Unitarian Council (CUC) at the closing service of this year's Annual Conference and Meeting (ACM).

Though Casey was referring to the Youth and Young Adults, on further reflection, I believe it applies to all of us—the members of the associated congregations of Unitarians across Canada. I believe that we have so much to offer to our neighbours, our cities, our nation—a questing, spiritual faith—religious communities committed to deeds not creeds, hope not hell. In a world panicked by end-of-the-world and otherworldly scenarios and beliefs, our Unitarian fidelity to and our embrace of the *here and now* in a beautiful, hurting world of depth and promise is deeply needed. If we keep the faith *and* share it, I think it would be deeply welcomed and embraced by many.

Our congregation was well represented at this year's ACM—by diligent delegates who attended the day-long business meetings; by a large contingent of our youth (I want to thank Nancy Woodham who served a key advisory role); and by our Young Adults. I was impressed by the expressive and dedicated work of Casey and Ariel Hunt-Brondwin who have significant national responsibilities; and I really

enjoyed the Young Adult-lead workshop on *Privilege and Anti-oppression* that Tim McCormick helped organize and facilitate.

Outcomes at the ACM business meeting gave me a lot of hope. Delegates approved a Social Responsibility Resolution Plan that will help ensure that the CUC is more transparent, participatory and effective. I also heard some significant fundraising plans—directed both within and beyond the CUC—that will contribute to growing the financial well-being of our national association of congregations. (More on this in the future—stay tuned!)

Each year I attend the CUC's ACM, I am convinced that UCV should become more active in our national Unitarian movement, active and contributing in ways equal to the depth and size of our congregation.

I cannot end this column without some comments on a handful of highlights of our own 2010/11 church year.

First, we had a standout year as a *teaching church*. Joe Cherry successfully fulfilled his internship at UCV, and with his recent ordination is now the **Reverend** Joseph M. Cherry. Our education program for children, youth and adults thrived. My personal thanks to our new, first-rate DRE Cristin Lee Schieder, to our teachers, our RE committees and volunteers, and all of the

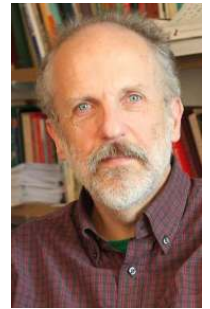
students and young adults who participated in our classes and programs. Thank you!

Second, a UCV Future Site Development working group will present recommendations to the congregation about our future and the use of our site at 49<sup>th</sup> and Oak. I believe the recommendations are realistic and achievable.

Third, a big thanks to all who showed up for our monthly *Eat, Meet and Write*. We had fun, fellowship, and good food, as we wrote letters in support of a national, affordable housing policy. The way I see it and experienced it, *Eat, Meet and Write* was a wonderful spiritual practice.

Fourth, our May 15 mental “illness” and mental health evening with Robert Whitaker, Will Hall, and Rob Wipond was a watershed event for Vancouver. I hope to deepen our efforts and programming in this challenging aspect of human experience that touches every family in our congregation and beyond. (More of this in the future—stay tuned!)

Finally, my sincere thanks to all of you in supporting me and our ministry together. I honour your generosity, your service, your financial giving, your goodness.



## Join us in developing a community kitchen at Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House

Volunteer lunch: Thursday, June 9, 10 am – 1:30 pm

Join us for lunch at UCV—meet other volunteers, hear about details, and decide if this is a volunteer job for you.

Our new UCV community kitchen program will be held weekly at MPNH, 800 East Broadway, beginning Thursday, September 29. The dates of your involvement can be flexible.

We will be working with vulnerable families in the Mount Pleasant area, providing an opportunity for moms and possibly dads to practise cooking skills in a supportive environment, assisting in providing needed nutritious food for their families.

Please contact Connie Wigmore (604-879-6243, [cwigmore1@shaw.ca](mailto:cwigmore1@shaw.ca)) with questions or to sign up for the one-day event.



## Northwest Wilderness Society Wilderness Camp

Philippa Syme



Photo by David Marmorek

Did you know that the Unitarian Church of Vancouver has a camp called Wilderness operated by the Northwest Wilderness Society and located in the wonderful and wild Kootenay District of British Columbia?

Phillip Hewett, our Minister Emeritus, and Robert Fulghum (of *All I Needed to Know I Learned in Kindergarten* fame) acquired the land in the late 1960's on behalf of Unitarian Church members, its affiliates and others interested in a wilderness experience.

The Camp is operated according to the principles of respecting and protecting nature. On the eastern shores of Kootenay Lake, campers swim, canoe, read, commune, meditate, and cogitate, star-gaze, hike up the creek or into mountains above, all under a big sky. Learn what a Denver cooler is, and make your own! Bring a hummingbird feeder and watch birds and other wild life from a hammock! Canoe to the cliffs or skip pebbles. There's always something to do—or not.

Camp highlights of the past decade

or so have been: developing a labyrinth, crafting (and baking in) a camp oven, building beach saunas, taking cooling night swims, launching paper boats, and reading poetry around a campfire. Also, musical jamming, talent shows, biffy and composting-toilet construction, art-making, and photography. Maybe you can add to this repertoire.

Are you getting interested? Sites are private, connected by pathways and reasonably protected on windy days. There's lots of beach access and mountain-fresh water. Don't forget to bring at least two large tarps, which can be set up in your camp. Plan to pack supplies to come in across the lake by boat and to bring it all out again with you when you leave. The camp boat does make occasional trips out for supplies or emergencies.

The camp boat runs from July 1 to August 31. When you arrive at the end of the road at Johnson's Landing, raise the orange flag onto the rack by the boathouse to signal *pick-up*. Load your gear onto the beach, park your vehicle in the area provided, and the boat operator will come and take you to the river delta where the sites are.

No reservations are required and



Image from nwscan.org

fees for parking and camping are reasonable. The camp is family-friendly but offers peace and solitude for older and quieter folks as well. Speak to a Northwest Society Board member, for more information. Board members who regularly attend UCV are Mary Lage, David Marmorek and Philippa Syme.

For more information, please check the website [www.nwscan.org](http://www.nwscan.org), or email [nwscan@comcast.net](mailto:nwscan@comcast.net), or phone 604-475-3104.

Brochures are available in Hewett Hall, both at the entrance and under the Unitarian Camps area.

Hope to see you there this summer!



Painting by David Marmorek

## Arts Committee

## Summer in the church

June 26—July 24

*Nothing Special (and therefore everything special)*

Carol Lopez

*...special moments when nothing else mattered, and the painting took over...*

How do I choose the subject matter for my paintings? Often, it is just a matter of taking a walk down a back alley, where the buildings have had time to settle into broad shapes of weathered colour and texture, with the contrast of a shock of colour, as in a bright plastic pail or tarp.

These relationships, represented simply and directly, are what attract the viewer even before they can identify the subject matter of my paintings.

July 24—August 29

*The Interior Sea*, in the Sanctuary  
*The Shape of Breathing*, in Fireside  
 Ellen Scobie



*Driftwood Windbreak, 22 x 17 inches,  
 pigmented inkjet print on watercolour paper*

Ellen Scobie was born and raised on Vancouver Island. She graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of Manitoba where further training in stone lithography laid the foundation for her art practice today: a hybrid of photography, printmaking and painting.

Building up the image through a montage of multiple photographs, she creates an impressionistic landscape which investigates concepts of memory, time, place and history.

Ellen's work is available at Arts Off Main, 216 East 28th Avenue. ([www.ellenscobie.com](http://www.ellenscobie.com), [www.artsoffmain.ca](http://www.artsoffmain.ca))

August 29—September 18

Spaces

Doris Friedrich and Maud van Breeman

Interpretations through photography, painting and mixed media.

## Fostering community

Ann Foster ([afos72@vcn.bc.ca](mailto:afos72@vcn.bc.ca), 604-736-2117)

Congratulations once again to UCV member and successful author **Maggie De Vries**, who has won the Sheila Egoff prize in children's literature for her outstanding young adult book, *Hunger Journeys*, available in our library! In May, she also participated in a group book launch at Vancouver Kidsbooks, with her latest book, *Somebody's Girl*, as well as a new edition of her popular *Chance and the Butterfly*.

Also on a creative roll is gifted UCV musician **Jane Slemon** with a new CD of her own compositions. Called *Breathing August*, it celebrates "small moments of deep joy in raising a family".

More UCV members are on the move. In July, **Joan and Noel Armstrong** are moving from their long-time Dunbar family home to Cavell Gardens, a popular retirement home at 12th Ave just east of Main. Their violinist daughter Pat, and her teenage pianist daughter Fran will be living in and lovingly caring for the family home, so Joan and Noel will be back for many visits. Noel can continue cello studies while living at Cavell Gardens, which has a practice room.

**Your humble scribe** is also on the move. Though not going far, I look forward to more light and a prettier outlook. My new address will be 309—655 W. 13th Avenue, V5Z 1N8 after June 10.

**Patience Towler** anticipates a full recovery by late summer from her April 21 hip surgery. She has high praise for the Oasis program, run by Vancouver Coastal Health, with its outstanding support for hip and knee surgery patients.

**Eva Kief**, still battling cancer with her indomitable spirit, is grateful to the Cancer Clinic for its support as well as to **Vi Pilar** for her frequent driving help.

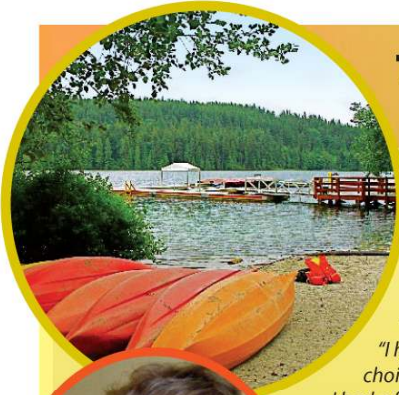
Both Patience and Eva are grateful for the many wonderful cards, calls and visits from UCV members.

**Ruth Shaw** continues to hold her own at St. James Hospice, and welcomes cards and possibly phone calls if the timing is right.

**Carry Grundy**, now at St. Vincent's Langara, would enjoy cards and visits.

Now to the younger generation. Congratulations to **Lucy Stainsby**, **Isobel Gibson-Flader** and **Douglas Ennenberg** on their high school graduations! Doug is headed for UBC and we look forward to hearing news of the others. Congratulations also to **Simon Marmorek** who has recently received his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in creative writing from UBC. His short-term plans include ESL training followed by a teaching stint overseas. Warmest wishes to all these fine young people!

Any other grads or weddings out there? It's never too late to Foster Community! Meanwhile, enjoy the summer and see you again in September.



## Two great workshops, one beautiful setting

Saturday, June 4th & Sunday, June 5th at Sasamat Lake

### Awesome Choral Workshop led by Kathryn Nicholson "Good News"—Sasamat's a'comin'

Uplifting gospel, chants, and call & response songs from faith traditions around the world.

Saturday, June 4th, 10–11:30 am & 1:30–4 pm. \$67 includes workshop with lunch & optional canoeing/kayaking (4–5 pm)

"I have always wanted to sing and this was the first time since elementary school choir that I had the chance. The instructor was professional and encouraging. I had a fantastic time, felt great, and am returning for more this year!"—Kirstin Shaw



Final chance to register



### Sonnets at Sasamat (just kidding) by Franci 'Freestyle' Louann

All kinds of poetry with a nature theme. If you have already written something about nature bring it along—part of our work together will be to share/workshop what you have brought. Be prepared also for a half hour 'nature walk'... with paper and pencil... then we can share, as we will, what we have written. For adults and youth...all comers welcome.

**NEW TIME: Sunday, June 5th, 1:30–3:30 pm**

\$43 includes poetry workshop with lunch & optional canoeing/kayaking (3:30–5 pm)

**Come for the Sunday service at 11:00 and make a day of it!**

#### IN PRAISE OF A CHUBBY CHALICE

this chalice is large and wide  
this chalice is firm and solid  
this chalice is round and inviting  
this chalice is comforting and supporting  
this chalice is full to the brim with ideas  
this chalice has room for you  
and me  
and all of good will  
Franci 'Freestyle' Louann (poet)

Download a registration form at [www.beaconunitarian.org](http://www.beaconunitarian.org) or email: [lauraredmond2@telus.net](mailto:lauraredmond2@telus.net)

## September 2011 trip to Transylvania

Last call for our September 2011 trip to Transylvania. A small group of us are going with our Minister Emeritus, Phillip Hewett, who has been there eight times previously.

It will be a fascinating adventure visiting our partner church, discovering our Unitarian roots and visiting Unesco World Heritage Sites. Join us!

Contact Mary Lage ([mlage@shaw.ca](mailto:mlage@shaw.ca), 604-435-9265) or Alison Pearson ([alisonpearson1@shaw.ca](mailto:alisonpearson1@shaw.ca), 604-541-2302)



The Vancouver International Song Institute (VISI)

## Tribute Concert to honour Harold Douglas Brown

June 22, 8 pm, Unitarian Church Sanctuary

We honour the spirit of Art Song's most beloved advocate.

Harold Brown always made young performers feel that their art mattered, encouraging them to aspire and reminding them to sing from their own humanity.

Cheer on the next generation of great singers and pianists in a concert hewn from the heartfelt poetry and music Harold Brown loved.

Emerging artists from VISI's international training programme share the stage with great VISI faculty artists. Music will include Vaughn Williams' *Songs of Travel* and Schubert's *Auf dem Strom*

**Tickets \$25**

## Summer lunches

Doris Lowe (604-435-6183)

Sunday lunches for the summer are as follows:

**June 5** - Refugee Committee (Palestinians)

**June 12** - Refugee Committee

**July 3** - Refugee Committee (Palestinians)

**July 10** - Refugee Committee

**Aug. 7** - Refugee Committee (Palestinians)

**Aug 14** - Refugee Committee



If your group would like to serve a lunch, please contact Doris.

*Library Committee*

**Newly catalogued books now in!**

Aphrodite Harris, chair ([aphrodite\\_harris@telus.net](mailto:aphrodite_harris@telus.net), 604-987-5339)

If you haven't visited UCV Library recently, now is the time to pay us a visit. Langara College's graduating Library Technician student Rory Brewster has nearly completed a two week practicum with us and has brilliantly electronically catalogued hundreds of purchased and donated books and media.



There is much to delight the eye and reading interests of Unitarians including new titles for teens and kids. We have added current fiction titles and poetry, and non-fiction titles on Unitarian issues and history, the environment, social issues, to name just a few topics.

I would like to thank the Library Committee members for their amazing contributions towards our Book Bashes and for the second time in a year, their recent support for this student placement. I want to publicly commend Rory for his excellent work and patience and my committee colleagues for their skills and generosity of time and effort supervising and supporting Rory. Many of our members also worked with Rory diligently updating their cataloguing skills while processing new and re-catalogued materials and filing an infinite number of catalogue cards.

I would also like to thank UCV's very professional office staff for their tremendous support for this effort as well as our custodial staff for the countless tasks they perform for the Library and Book Bashes with much ingenuity and grace. In addition, I am very indebted to Reed Harris who upgraded our computer and handled multiple trouble-shooting efforts as we reloaded and used new library software.

We hope these efforts will better enable us to maintain a library that responds to the literary and spiritual reading needs of UCV members. Do visit us in the next few weeks to say hello and savour our growing collection.

We always welcome new members to our committee!

A sample of newly catalogued materials:

**Non-fiction:**

- The Value of Nothing* by Raj Patel
- Traveling with Pomegranates* by Sue Monk Kidd
- The Politics of Food* by Necessary Voices Society (MP3,CD)
- World Peace* by Necessary Voices Society (MP3,CD)
- Bowling for Columbine* by Michael Moore (DVD)
- The Corporation* by Mark Achbar (DVD)

**Teen fiction:**

- Winds through Time* by Ann Walsh
- Word Nerd* by Susin Nielsen

**Children's fiction:**

- Yetsa's Sweater* by Sylvia Olsen
- Where is the Green Sheep?* by Mem Fox

**UCV Book Club**

Gail Thomson (778-789-5197, [gailhthomson@gmail.com](mailto:gailhthomson@gmail.com))



The UCV Book Club meets in Lindsey-Priestley at 12:30 pm the third Sunday of each month, except for July and August. All are welcome. Upcoming book title and author: **June 19. *Pilgrim* by Timothy Findley**

**The 14th Annual Vancouver Island Unitarian Women's Retreat**

Bethlehem Retreat Centre, Nanaimo, BC  
Fri.- Sun., September 16 - 18

The featured workshop will be ***Opening Our Hearts Through Story***, led by storyteller Margaret Murphy of Nanaimo.



\$225.00 before August 19 or \$240.00 after this date.

For further information or to request a registration form please email Janice ([tjhocking@shaw.ca](mailto:tjhocking@shaw.ca)) or Patricia ([phofstrand@shaw.ca](mailto:phofstrand@shaw.ca), 1-250-390-1332).

**Paint, collage, etc. no instruction**

**Sunday June 12**, after the service until 4 pm, just mutual inspiration.

If Saturday is a better day or for other questions, please contact Linda ([vanalleyn@shaw.ca](mailto:vanalleyn@shaw.ca)).

**Planned giving advisory**

Rainer Borkenhagen (604-221-6631)

You might suggest to friends and relatives, that in lieu of flowers, they can make gifts in memory of loved ones who have received their spiritual nurture from our Church.

Give to the Endowment Fund of the Unitarian Church of Vancouver.

An offertory box is available at both exits of the sanctuary



Daytimers

## Strawberries and cream

Wanda Justice (604-327-1851)

Daytimers will be sharing ideas for programs in the fall and the end of this spring season.

As a rousing finale, Daytimers will celebrate with an exploration of the horticultural, climatic, geographical, cultural and culinary origins and history of the strawberry shortcake and its importance to the spiritual development and longevity of this group of seekers.

Pack a lunch and join the Daytimers in the Fireside Room for illumination of all of the above-mentioned stimulation, discussion and whipped cream. We meet at 11:00 for the program, stop at noon for lunch, and continue the ensuing discussion to 2 pm.

**Thursday, June 9.** Growing strawberries in a barrel, the necessity of food for spiritual growth and other program suggestions.

**Thursday, June 23.** Annual picnic (in place). Shortcake, strawberries and whipped cream, well-laced with stories and reminiscences.

First Friday Focus

## A nose by any other name would smell as well

Randall MacKinnon

June 3, 7 – 9 pm,  
Hewett Centre

All the globe is a platform and this program will give participants a chance to *paint the burg cerise*. Take a sentence or a well known quote and paraphrase it, making it better or even bitter.

In other words, put it in other words—my word, even put it in your words. This will be a perfect time to make a name for yourself.

Randall MacKinnon (604-263-IDEA, [fristfridayfocus@ymail.com](mailto:fristfridayfocus@ymail.com))



## Refugee Committee news

Virginia Crabill

We hope you enjoyed our fund raising play *Haunting* at the Metro Theatre on May 18. Thanks so much for your support—we made over \$800!

The parents of our young Palestinian family have arrived safely in Vancouver. Four of their sons, twelve grandchildren, and a niece were all at the airport to welcome them with banners and flags. It was quite emotional!

With our Afghan family, there is good news and not-so-good news. The mother and five unmarried children have bought a house with three suites, which they will let to help with the mortgage. In eight years, they have learned English, gotten themselves educated, become Canadians and are now property owners and landlords. The mother got her driving license too!

On the other hand, her sixteen relatives in Iran must be interviewed by visa officers from the Canadian Embassy in Damascus, Syria. Iran does not currently allow Canadian visa officers to enter Iran. Yet interviews are a necessary part of the process to get them to Canada. Adding to the problem, the Iranian authorities have stepped up their efforts to deport Afghans, regardless of what they might face in Afghanistan.

We are greatly appreciative of our donated storage space but this space is full at present and we cannot accept anything more just now.

The Refugee Committee meets the fourth Sunday of each month in Castello, at 12:30 pm. For more information, contact the co-chairs, Virginia Crabill (604-731-9393) or Fiona Graham (1-604-886-4810).

If you wish to contribute financially, please place your gift in a donation envelope during the service or bring it to the UCV office, with the memo *For the Sheilah Thompson Refugee Fund*.



Unitarian Music Club

## Solstice party

David Donaldson

Monday, June 20, 7:30 pm, Fireside

The evening will consist of a short informal concert with performances by David Donaldson, Ann Foster, Quatro, Gerard Satamian 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](mailto:nichorsi@interchange.ubc.ca)) or David Donaldson (604-224-6010, [dvdd@telus.net](mailto:dvdd@telus.net))



## Unitarian Social Group

June 11, 6:00 pm, Hewett Centre

Come out and socialize with fellow Unitarians! All ages are welcome!

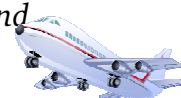
It's a potluck, so please bring some food to share.

The theme this month is collage making.

Contact Eva Perjes (604-873-0770) for more information.

## Purchase carbon offsets

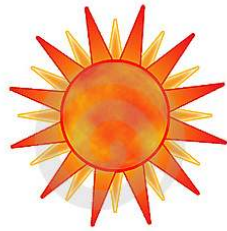
- Enjoy your vacation/make a carbon offset donation.
- Make your cheque payable to *The UCV Green Fund*



Environment Committee

## Local food

Karl Perrin, Chair  
(604-872-7326)



At 2 pm on Wednesday, June 1, UCV will host the Oak St. Farmers' Market (OSFM) Grand Opening Ceremony. Please come to the sanctuary. After the music, speeches, and ribbon cutting, you can buy produce *so fresh the farmer is still attached*.

Fresh organic produce is more nutritious and tastier than imported—but what about its carbon footprint? Local organics make a lighter footprint in two ways.

First, inputs are lighter. Artificial fertilizer production is energy intensive. When fertilizer and pesticides are trucked in, or when the food they grow is shipped (or flown) from afar, the *food miles* really mount up. Corn-fed, factory-farmed beef is bad, but Thai shrimp is worse.

Second, organic farming creates carbon-rich living soil. Industrial farming kills it, and run-off sickens riparian and ocean life. Respected soil stores carbon, water and nutrients. Its structure allows it to survive drought in better condition, with bigger yields. See *Organic Agriculture and Carbon Sequestration* by Maria Muller-Lindenlauf, FAO-UN, Rome, 2009. Conversion to organic agriculture worldwide could balance the higher labour costs of organic farming with earnings from carbon sequestration credits, and massively reduce food related green house gases (GHGs).

So shop organic. Like Earthsave Canada, you can *save the planet, one bite at a time*.

The Environment Committee will meet Sunday, June 12 at 12:30 pm in Lindsey-Priestley. All are welcome.

## Your Outreach Opportunities Fund at work

David Steele

*A portion of this collection goes to the Outreach Opportunities Fund.*

Sound familiar? We hear it every week just before we dig into our wallets to contribute a little bit more to the workings of our UCV community. You've probably wondered just where exactly that *portion of this collection* goes.

Well, here's your answer. This year we've distributed your donations to four organizations very active in making our wider community a more just and more welcoming place. A total of \$10,000 has been divided between the Salisbury Community Society, the Vancouver Association for the Survivors of Torture, the Storybook Program of the Elizabeth Fry Society, and Pedal Energy Development Alternatives.

Our total disbursement was especially high this year because the Outreach Opportunities Fund was reorganizing and didn't make disbursements the previous year.

**The Salisbury Community Society's Kinbrace Program** provides holistic support for refugee claimants in Metro Vancouver. Since 1998, Kinbrace has directly assisted hundreds of new refugee claimants with housing, orientation, accompaniment, and ongoing support through its integrated community approach.

**The Vancouver Association for the Survivors of Torture** assists refugees and other newcomers through settlement, counselling and community-based programs. They also provide food through their community kitchen program and have staples available for clients to take home on an as needed basis. VAST has many volunteer opportunities and would love it if you were to get involved.

**The Elizabeth Fry Society of Greater Vancouver** advocates for women and children involved, or at risk of involvement in the Criminal Justice System and are known for their gender expertise and work within prisons. Their Storybook Program connects incarcerated parents and their children through the power of a shared reading experience. They record parents reading new, age-appropriate books, then deliver the recordings, books and a CD player to their children.

**Pedal Energy Development Alternatives** educates about and promotes pedal-powered technology. By recycling and refurbishing bicycles, PEDAL removes bikes from the waste stream, offers affordable bikes for sale and encourages cycling as a sustainable, healthy transportation choice. PEDAL's programs empower people by teaching them how to maintain and repair their own bikes and by providing work experience and occupational therapy to clients of service organizations. PEDAL also provides free bikes to low-income individuals.

As you can see, the money you're dropping in the collection basket each work is doing good work indeed. Twenty-five percent of every Sunday collection goes to the Outreach Opportunities Fund. We're expecting to have \$4500 for the next round of Outreach Opportunities grant awards. Keep up the good work!

For more information, visit the UCV website at [www.vancouverunitarians.ca](http://www.vancouverunitarians.ca). Under *Announcements*, click on *2011 Opportunities Outreach Fund Awards*, then on *More OOF Awards*.



Rev. Epperson presents an Outreach Opportunities Fund Award to Claudette Lovencin of the Elizabeth Fry Society

## UCV Calendar – June 2011

Wed. 1	2 – 3 pm. Oak St. Farmers' Market Grand Opening, Sanctuary 3 - 7 pm. Farmers' Market, parking lot 7:30 pm. Film and goodies after the Market	Fri. 17	7:30 pm. Film and goodies after the Market
Fri. 3	7 – 10 pm. First Friday Focus, Fireside	Sun. 19	6:30 – 9:30 pm. Philosophers Café, Fireside
Sun. 5	12:30 – 1:30 pm. Forum, Fireside	Sun. 19	12:30 – 1:30 pm. Forum, Fireside
Sun. 5	10 – 2 pm. Green Market, Alcove	Sun. 19	10 am – 2 pm. Green Market, Alcove
Sun. 5	1 – 2 pm. UCV Meditation, Meditation	Sun. 19	12:30 – 2 pm. UCV Book Club, Lindsey/Priestley
Wed. 8	3 - 7 pm. Farmers' Market, parking lot 7:30 pm. Film and goodies after the Market 7 – 9:30 pm. Pagan Group, Fireside	Sun. 19	1 – 3 pm. New Women's Group, Castello
Thurs. 9	10 am – 1:30 pm. Volunteer training for Community Kitchen program, kitchen and Budny	Mon. 20	7 – 9 pm. Sacred Circle Dancing, Fireside
Thur. 9	11 am – 2 pm. Daytimers, Fireside	Mon. 20	7:30 – 9:30 pm. UCV Music Club, Sanctuary
Sun. 12	12:45 – 2:45. Extraordinary General Meeting, Hewett Centre	Wed. 22	3 – 7 pm. Farmers' Market, parking lot 7:30 pm. Film and goodies after the Market 7 – 9:30 pm. Pagan Group, Fireside
Mon. 13	7 – 9 pm. Sacred Circle Dancing, Hewett	Thur. 23	11 am – 2 pm. Daytimers, Fireside
Wed. 15	3 – 7 pm. Farmers' Market, parking lot	Sat. 25	1 – 3 pm. Visual Arts Group, Lindsey/Priestley
		Sat. 25	7:30 pm. UCV Youth Coffee House, Hewett Centre
		Sun. 26	12:30 – 1:30 pm. Forum, Fireside
		Wed. 29	3 – 7 pm. Farmers' Market, parking lot 7:30 pm. Film and goodies after the Market

## UCV Forums

Mary Bennett



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

June 5

**Nukes and Cancer**

**Dr. Peggy Olive**

Since its discovery over a century ago, ionizing radiation has played an important role in medicine, energy, and war, but events in Fukushima remind us of the health price we pay for smashing the atom.

Dr. Peggy Olive, Scientist Emeritus, B.C. Cancer Agency, was head of its Department of Medical Biophysics. She is Past President of the International Association for Radiation Research.

June 12

**No forum, EGM**

**July and August**

The Forum usually takes the summer off—but if you have a speaker and a topic and are willing to facilitate, contact the office or Mary Bennett ([maryinvancouver@gmail.com](mailto:maryinvancouver@gmail.com)) and we'll try to make something happen.

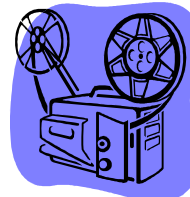
Participation may be small, however.

*Environment/Social Justice Committees*

## Film and goodies after the market



After shopping at the new Oak Street Farmers' Market, on Wednesdays, starting June 1, come on over for a cozy free film and goodies in **Hewett Centre, at 7:30 pm.**



**June 1** focus on social justice:

**Black Gold**, a visually enthralling probe into the stark realities for coffee farmers behind that indulgent latte.

**June 8** focus on farmed animals:

**The Emotional World of Farm Animals**, narrated by Jeffrey Masson, author of *When Elephants Weep*, *Dogs Never Lie About Love*, and *The Pig Who Sang to the Moon*.

**June 15** focus on animal agribusiness:

**A Cow At My Table**, documenting the history and current controversies surrounding animal agriculture.

**June 22** focus on food safety:

**Mad Cowboy**, the story of how Howard Lyman, former cattle rancher, came to be a full-time activist for organic and humane agriculture.

**June 29** focus on soil conservation:

**Dirt: The Movie**, inspiring stories of humans trying to reconnect to dirt – the living skin of the earth.

More great films coming in July and August, such as **Food Inc.**, **Our Daily Bread**, and many more! Look for flyers at the Oak Street Farmers' Market or check the Unitarian Church of Vancouver website.