

**Letting It Go:
A Fire Communion
Mary Bennett and Patrick Dubois
December 27, 2009
11:00 am**



Fire Burn and Cauldron Bubble

The Unitarian Church of Vancouver
*We are a community of diverse beliefs and shared values.
In fellowship with one another, we seek spiritual growth, social justice,
and environmental sustainability through worship, ethical action,
education, and artistic expression.
We welcome all who would join this compassionate and visionary community.*

UNITARIAN CHURCH OF VANCOUVER

Celebration of Worship *December 27, 2009*

At the front of the church you will find unlit candles. You are welcome to light a candle in remembrance, in gratitude, in celebration. Our church welcomes your comments and suggestions. Please find slips beside a suggestion box in the foyer. Thank you.

*Help us create a mood for shared celebration through **quiet** reflection during the prelude.
Please turn off your pagers, cell phones, etc.*

Prelude

Death of Ase Edvard Grieg
Goodbye Porkpie Hat Charles Mingus
Ev'ry Time We Say Goodbye Cole Porter
Ingathering Singing #188 *Come, Come Whoever You Are*

Opening Words

In Blackwater Woods Mary Oliver
read by Karen Bartlett

Welcome/Greeting Our Neighbours

Karen Bartlett

Kindling the Chalice Flame

Rev. Mark Shiels
Minister to English Language Unitarian Fellowship of Prague

Responsive Reading

Acknowledgement of Need Cecil Williams
read by Patrick Dubois

Opening Hymn # 1021

Lean On Me

Story for All Ages

Stormy Weather Debi Gliori
read by Mary Barnett

*Go now in peace, go now in peace. May the spirit of love surround you,
Everywhere, everywhere, you may go.*

Welcome and Announcements

Board member

Reading from the Book of Celebrations and Concerns

Board member

Offering: *We deeply appreciate
your presence here, your offering
and the gifts you share.*

Let It Go Patrick Dubois
with Tara Bonham,
Elliott Dainow, Phillippa Syme

| | |
|--|--|
| Homily | <i>Goodbye To Thinking Life is Fair</i> Mary Bennett |
| Congregational Singing | <i>You Can't Always Get What You Want</i> adapted by Patrick Dubois with Tara Bonham, Elliott Dainow, Phillippa Syme |
| Meditation, spoken then silent | <i>The Opening of Eyes</i> David Whyte read by Mary Bennett |
| Fire of Transformation | Introduction Mary Bennett |
| Ritual | <i>Letting Go</i> Patrick Dubois with Tara Bonham, Elliott Dainow, Phillippa Syme |
| Reading | <i>Faith</i> David Whyte read by Mary Bennett |
| Benediction/Extinguishing the Chalice Flame | <i>Wild Geese</i> Mary Oliver read by Mary Bennett |
| Valediction | <i>Carry the flame of peace and love, until we meet again.</i> <i>Carry the flame of peace and love, until we meet again.</i> |

UCV CENTENARY HISTORY SNIPPET: In 1984 the UCV Archives is formally established with \$2,000 from the Julia Stockett bequest used to pay for archivist (and member) Jim Bowman to archive church records from 1909 to the early 1980's.

Sunday, January 3, 2010
11:00 am Worship Service
Better Than We Think
Rev. Steven Epperson

Please remember that the seats in the fourth row on the left side of the church are reserved for people with hearing loss. People using hearing aids may obtain further amplification by activating the T-switch. The seats in the rear of the church are reserved (when facing the front): left side for parents with babies or small children in child care, and right side for persons in wheelchairs.

Acknowledgment of Need (to be read responsively)

We come together in acknowledgement of our need of one another.

Some of us need to be heard, but have no one who will really listen.

Some of us need to be loved, and some of us need to love.

Some of us want to change, but it is too painful.

Some of us are lonely, but afraid to tell anyone.

Some of us are sick of ourselves and others, but don't know what to do about it.

Some of us want to be ourselves, but it seems as though other people won't let us.

Some of us want the world to be a better place, but feel weighed down by a sense of futility.

Some of us don't even know what we want, but hope we can find it here.

All together: We come together, sometimes in fear, sometimes in trust, sometimes in pain, sometimes in joy, but always in hope and faith that we can help and strengthen each other in our quest for healing.

You Can't Always Get What You Want
Rolling Stones, verse lyrics by Patrick Dubois

Chorus:

You can't always get what you want [3 times]
but if you try sometimes, you find
you get what you need.

After some time of reflection
we might feel that life passed us by.
But if we release self-deception
we might start to understand why:

Chorus

We like to embrace new beginnings
and dream about wealth that might be
but until we forget about winning
we won't allow our selves to see

Chorus

Let It Go
Patrick Dubois

Some things don't work out like you planned.
Some times you play a losing hand.

Some days the milk of life gets spilled.
Some wishes never get fulfilled.

Chorus:

You can't know what's in store.
Some times less is more.
Breaking down can open up a door, oh!
There comes a time for grief.
It is a time for release.
And if you just let it go, it will know how to flow, so
give your body peace.
Let it go.

Good-bye to castles in the air.
Good-bye to thinking life is fair.

Chorus

Let it go

WELCOME! NEWCOMERS AND VISITORS

If you are a new family here, with babies or children, we wish you a special welcome. Our childcare staff is happy to provide free care for babies and toddlers while you are at the service. Your children aged three and above will enjoy the church school. Ask the ushers for directions. If you feel the need to slip out of the Sanctuary with a fretting baby, please know that the service can be heard in the foyer and in Hewett Centre.

Please visit our Visitors' table, sign in and get a name tag in the Sanctuary Foyer. Drop by the Welcome Table in Hewett Centre after the service, and stay for coffee, tea or juice and friendly conversation. Learn about our church and our community. Look for people wearing yellow name tags, who are welcoming you today.

SUPPORT TEAM TODAY

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| COFFEE SET UP AND SERVERS | U Youth Group & Caroline Farley, Youth Group |
| FLOWERS | Carolyn Innes |
| LIBRARY AND LITERATURE STALL | Aphrodite Harris, Hilda Wiebe |
| LUNCH | n/a |
| ORDER OF SERVICE | Tara-Lee MacNiven |
| SOUND | Rob Grieg |
| USHERS | Greg Grant, Julie Cowie, Gary Smook, Hilda Wiebe |
| WELCOME AND INFORMATION TABLE | Karen Bartlett, Shoshanna Wiley, David Embry |

STAFF

| | |
|--|---|
| PARISH MINISTER | Rev. Steven Epperson |
| CHOIR DIRECTOR | Donna Brown |
| MUSIC ASSISTANT TO THE MINISTER | Elliott Dainow |
| HEAD CUSTODIAN | Stan Clarke |
| REPLACEMENT CUSTODIANS | Gerald Hernesmaa, Wenta Tu'ume |
| ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER | Tamara Shoup |
| BOOKKEEPER | Ravina Sangara |
| OFFICE ASSISTANT / BOOKINGS | Tara-Lee MacNiven |
| SUNDAY RECEPTIONISTS | Virginia Crabill, Patti Turner, Lindsey Udem |
| UCV LAY CHAPLAINS | Phyllis Bassett, Dan Enright Katherine Roback, Wayne Ulian |
| COMMUNITY MINISTER | Rev. Laura Friedman |

*The red pulpit hanging is a gift from our partner church in Brassó, Romania,
to celebrate our continuing relationship.*

Unitarian Church of Vancouver
949 West 49th Avenue
Vancouver, BC, V5Z 2T1
Tel: 604.261.7204
Fax: 604.261.7205
Email: info@vancouverunitarians.ca
www.vancouverunitarians.ca

DECEMBER 27, 2009

OUR CHILDREN'S PROGRAM TODAY Our children will remain with us in church today. Children under the age of 8 may leave for a program in Hewett hall.

ART IN THE CHURCH Unitarian Artists group show in the Sanctuary October 25th to mid December.

REFUGEE COMMITTEE would like to thank this congregation for all their support during our raffle. The winners of the Committee's Fall raffle are as follows: the quilt was won by Rampai Vajarapana, the painting was won by Pam Rickey, and the chess set was won by Edwin Bussey. Congratulations to the winners and many thanks to members of the congregation and others who again supported the work of the Refugee Committee. Next Sunday, 3rd January, Farahnaz will make us her delicious Afghan lunch and our new Palestinian refugee family hope to be here then to meet and thank the congregation

UCV BOOK CLUB meets the first Sunday of every month. (January meeting cancelled.) February 7, 2010: Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Promote Peace One School at a Time, non-fiction, Greg Mortenson & David Oliver Relin. "Here [Pakistan], we drink three cups of tea; the first you are a stranger, the second you become a friend, and the third, you join our family, and for our family we are prepared to do anything—even die."

UCV CENTENARY EVENTS

ALL MONTH: South Foyer display Case – UCV Thrift Sale Display

UCV AND DENOMINATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

WARM YOUR WINTER with a (not too) spicy Thai Vegan Cooking Workshop. Help reduce pollution, global warming, world hunger and animal abuses. Tuesday, December 29, 1:00 pm, \$15. Contact Denise Swanson to register: dcswanson@shaw.ca 604-872-5343.

UNITARIAN WOMEN'S RETREAT Come Play With Us: A Creative Gathering of Unitarian women will take place January 15 to 17, 2010, at Camp Alexandra Crescent Beach. Registration fee of \$150 covers the cost of accommodation and delicious meals. Register with Pam Rickey at 604-732-1370 or pamelarickey@trentu.ca.

UCV ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE has a blog where you can find resources, events and inspiration – and “meet” members of the committee. Go to <http://ucvenvironment.wordpress.com> to learn more – and possibly post a comment or reply to the postings.

DECEMBER 27, 2009

OUR CHILDREN'S PROGRAM TODAY Our children will remain with us in church today. Children under the age of 8 may leave for a program in Hewett hall.

ART IN THE CHURCH Unitarian Artists group show in the Sanctuary October 25th to mid December.

REFUGEE COMMITTEE would like to thank this congregation for all their support during our raffle. The winners of the Committee's Fall raffle are as follows: the quilt was won by Rampai Vajarapana, the painting was won by Pam Rickey, and the chess set was won by Edwin Bussey. Congratulations to the winners and many thanks to members of the congregation and others who again supported the work of the Refugee Committee. Next Sunday, 3rd January, Farahnaz will make us her delicious Afghan lunch and our new Palestinian refugee family hope to be here then to meet and thank the congregation

UCV BOOK CLUB meets the first Sunday of every month. (January meeting cancelled.) February 7, 2010: Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Promote Peace One School at a Time, non-fiction, Greg Mortenson & David Oliver Relin. "Here [Pakistan], we drink three cups of tea; the first you are a stranger, the second you become a friend, and the third, you join our family, and for our family we are prepared to do anything—even die."

UCV CENTENARY EVENTS

ALL MONTH: South Foyer display Case – UCV Thrift Sale Display

UCV AND DENOMINATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

WARM YOUR WINTER with a (not too) spicy Thai Vegan Cooking Workshop. Help reduce pollution, global warming, world hunger and animal abuses. Tuesday, December 29, 1:00 pm, \$15. Contact Denise Swanson to register: dcswanson@shaw.ca 604-872-5343.

UNITARIAN WOMEN'S RETREAT Come Play With Us: A Creative Gathering of Unitarian women will take place January 15 to 17, 2010, at Camp Alexandra Crescent Beach. Registration fee of \$150 covers the cost of accommodation and delicious meals. Register with Pam Rickey at 604-732-1370 or pamelarickey@trentu.ca.

UCV ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE has a blog where you can find resources, events and inspiration – and “meet” members of the committee. Go to <http://ucvenvironment.wordpress.com> to learn more – and possibly post a comment or reply to the postings.