

# Villains and the Stories We Tell

**Rev. Dr. Steven Epperson**

**December 6, 2009**

**11:00 am**



image credit: *Satan Afflicting Job* by William Blake

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 6, 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.*

<b>Prelude</b>	<i>Piano Sonatas*</i> (excerpts)L. Beethoven E. Dainow
<b>Opening Words/Greeting Our Neighbours</b>	Rev. Steven Epperson
<b>Kindling the Chalice Flame</b>	
<b>Opening Hymn # 346</b>	<i>Come, Sing a Song With Me</i>
<b>Story for All Ages</b>	<i>Thanks to the Animals</i> Allen Sockabasin read by Rev. Steven Epperson
<b>Welcome and Announcements</b>	Board member
<b>Reading from the Book of Celebrations and Concerns</b>	Board member
<b>Offering:</b> <i>We deeply appreciate your presence here, your offering and the gifts you share.</i>	<i>Mack The Knife</i> Kurt Weill <i>Star Wars</i> John Williams E. Dainow, piano
<b>Meditation, spoken then silent</b>	
<b>Music Response</b>	<i>Tara's Theme</i> Max Steiner E. Dainow, piano
<b>Sermon</b>	Villains and the Stories We Tell
<b>Closing Hymn # 297</b>	<i>The Star of Truth</i>
<b>Benediction/Extinguishing the Chalice Flame</b>	
<b>Valediction</b>	<i>Carry the flame of peace and love, until we meet again. Carry the flame of peace and love, until we meet again.</i>
<b>Postlude</b>	<i>Exodus</i> Ernest Gold E. Dainow, piano

\* Sometimes, the "villain" in a story is not a person but a situation or condition. In the case of Beethoven, the "villain" was his deafness which was perhaps compounded by his unruly nature. -E. Dainow



*John Calvin*



*Michael Servetus*



*Anti-Minarets Campaign Posters in Switzerland – Photo AP*

**UCV CENTENARY HISTORY SNIPPET:** February 6, 1983 marks the opening of Beacon Unitarian Church in the tri-cities area. UCV members on the planning committee include Ralph Greer, Joyce Griffiths, and Patience Towler. From 1984-86 UCV provides a total of \$45,000 in funds to enable Beacon to engage a Minister.

**Sunday, December 13, 2009**

**11:00 am Worship Service**

**Food First**

**Rev. Steven Epperson**

**Ingathering Singing with Joyce Poley 10:45am**

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.

## 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

<b>COFFEE SET UP AND SERVERS</b>	Elizabeth Murdoch, Betsey Neily, Denise Swanson
<b>FLOWERS</b>	Chris Pearce
<b>LIBRARY AND LITERATURE STALL</b>	Jean Stanton, Ann Foster
<b>LUNCH</b>	Refugee Ctte (fundraising for Farahnaz)
<b>ORDER OF SERVICE</b>	Tara MacNiven
<b>SOUND</b>	Rob Taylor
<b>USHERS</b>	Pat Johnson, Patricia Startin, Marg Flethcer
<b>WELCOME AND INFORMATION TABLE</b>	Deanne Turner, Errol McKinstry, Philomene Jahnke

### STAFF

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

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

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## DECEMBER 6, 2009

**OUR CHILDREN'S PROGRAM TODAY** 0 to 3yrs – Childcare room, 3yrs to grade 3 – Parker (downstairs), Grade 4 to 7 – Budny/Socinus, Youth – Hitschmanova(downstairs)

**ART IN THE CHURCH:** Unitarian Artists group show in the Sanctuary October 25<sup>th</sup> to mid December

**REFUGEE COMMITTEE:** Farahnaz will be making everyone's favourite Afghan lunch today, and our new Palestinian family will be in the Hewett Centre to meet and thank everyone for sponsoring them.

**PERFECT CHRISTMAS STOCKING STUFFER.** Organic Fair Trade dried fruit (mango, pineapple, mixed fruit and chocolate) available at UCV Green Market every first and third Sunday. A gift that is healthy, environmental, ethical. and educational. Environment Ctte fundraiser towards the replacement of a new furnace and reduction of our carbon footprint.

**PERFECT HOLIDAY GIFTS FROM THE EARTH AND FOR THE EARTH.** Pots by Rob Dainow in Hewett Hall today. Chalice, bowls, platters, vases and one-of-a-kind pots. Gas-fired, raku, and soda fired. Proceeds (in part) go to UCV Green Fund.

**THE UCV BOOK CLUB** meets at 12:30 in Budny in Hewett Hall on the first Sunday of every month. Today we'll be talking about the works of the prolific Alice Munro. Please join us for a lively discussion on Alice's stories, including her latest book of short stories "Too Much Happiness."

### UCV CENTENARY EVENTS

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

### UCV AND DENOMINATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CHALICE CHOIR ANNUAL ADVENT CONCERT:** Magnificat! Join the Chalice Choir and the Vancouver Chamber Players for a concert of December delights, featuring Bach's *Magnificat!* Childcare provided. Reception to follow. Sunday, Dec. 6 at 7:30 pm, Sanctuary. This is the choir's main fundraiser of the year and supports the choir's participation in our Sunday services. Invite your friends! Tickets: \$15 (Low income – pay what you can.) Available at the door.

**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](mailto:pamelarickey@trentu.ca).

**VANCOUVER WOMEN'S MUSICAL SOCIETY** Presents Timothy Chooi, Violin, on Wednesday Dec 9 at 11am in the UCV Sanctuary. Concert Tickets are \$15 at door. For more info, Bernice 778-279-6789.

**RECOGNITION** During the worship service on Dec 13, 2009 there will be a short recognition ceremony for those who have recently joined the UCV. New members will be welcomed into the congregation and our mutual commitment to each other expressed through a responsive reading. We encourage all new members to attend. For further information contact Dianne Crosbie 604 876 6543.

**SACRED CIRCLE DANCING** – Fireside room from 7-9pm Mon Dec 14. This is the last session for 2009. No dance on Dec 21. We resume with 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays in January. For more info: [ucvdance@telus.net](mailto:ucvdance@telus.net) or <http://sacredcircledance.wordpress.com/>

**A CANDLELIGHT VIGIL** When was the last time you participated in a candlelight vigil? Well now's your chance! Members and friends of UCV are invited to join the Enviro Ctte in a candlelight vigil on Sat. Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> at the corner of 49<sup>th</sup> and Oak. We will meet at 5pm. We want to show Mr. Harper that we need a real and effective climate change deal in Copenhagen this month. Bring your bells and candles. We may even sing! We will also rally for real climate change action after church on Sunday, Dec. 13. For more info, contact Mary Lage (604-435-9265) or Joan Armstrong (604-731-8786)

**DAYTIMERS CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON** Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> at 11am. No, we can't accommodate the whole congregation as the Bulletin suggested! But we welcome former Daytimers to join us. Gay Kuchta's Women's Group is cooking the turkey.

**HOUSECLEANING AND OTHER HOME SERVICES** Long-time client-volunteers (10-25 years) of Unitarian Church Food Bank seek alternate employment: housecleaning, house/pet sitting, babysitting, cater, etc. Call Frances Anderson, Food Bank Volunteer (604-432-7553) for names, then you do the interviewing for suitability for your requirements.

**INTERGENERATIONAL CRAFT STATIONS** In Hewett Centre after Service, Sun Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> and bring some spare change. The Children and Youth Religious Education (CYRE) Committee will have intergenerational craft stations set up. Make handmade gifts for your loved ones (and maybe even for yourself). There will be something for everyone. Each craft will have a low cost associated with it (to cover the cost of materials); this is with our child crafters on an allowance-based budget in mind. Bath bombs, dough ornaments, pine cone crafts, beaded keychains, Christmas cards, and much more. Contact Theresa Marion [tm\\_marion@yahoo.ca](mailto:tm_marion@yahoo.ca) for more information, or if you'd like to host a craft table