



The Bulletin

Unitarian Church of Vancouver

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SEPTEMBER 2010

Sunday Services

All services begin at 11 am

September 5

Exploring Happiness

Patrick Dubois and Phil Campbell

Happiness is hard to define and easy to pursue, yet is elusive for many people. We would not presume to provide you with definitive answers. Instead we will explore the subject with music, thoughts and meditations.

Music with Patrick Dubois

September 12

Say it with Water:

UCV's Water Ceremony

Rev. Steven Epperson

Today marks the first Sunday of the 2010 - 11 "new year" at UCV. We celebrate the event with our annual Water Ceremony where we bring and merge water gathered from our summer journeys.

Please bring some water from travels near and far as we gather our community once again. A worship service for all ages.

The Chalice Choir and Elliott Dainow return.

September 19

*To Transform Lives in a
Profound Way*

Rev. Steven Epperson

The purpose of an authentic religion is to enable us to fundamentally transform our lives—from despair to hope, superficiality to spiritual depth, loneliness to fellowship, egotism to service; that is our mission and our vision.

Unitarianism should be dedicated to this practice and goal: providing an inspiring "third way" between religious dogmatism and secular consumerism.

September 26

A Whole New World

Joe Cherry, Ministerial Intern

Change is our companion through our whole lives. Every so often though there are so many changes at once, that our attention is drawn to transition. What does change mean for us spiritually? Can one prepare for change? And when must one do so?

Please join our new intern minister, Joe Cherry, on this Sunday.

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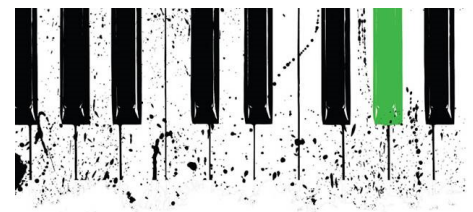
The last days of the 2010 Thrift Sale

Denise Nereida (604-731-7630, djaynereida@hotmail.com)

We are approaching the end of the 2010 Summer Thrift Sale. You will be able to shop after services on September 5 and September 12. The electrical department will be relocated in the alcove for September. As there is no public sale this year, we are offering an evening of shopping pleasure on Thurs., September 9, 7 pm - 9 pm. Books, Treasure Trove, Electrical, and Classy Clothes For Women will be open for business.

We are accepting no further donations, as we no longer have a storage and sorting area. Thank you for your donations of good quality items during the summer. As well as recycling the best within our own church community, with a small handling fee, we have delivered many items to other charities

A big thank you to all the volunteers who helped over the summer in a myriad of ways.



The
Green
Keys
Tour

concert of
original piano
music and
eco-showcase

W/ FRANK HORVAT · FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 24 · 7:30PM Freewill Donation
UNITARIAN CHURCH OF VANCOUVER · 949 WEST 49TH AVE. · VANCOUVER

Experience The Sounds Of The Dark
Buy a CD, Support the World Wildlife Fund (WWF)
WWW.FRANKHORVAT.COM/TOUR

Tour Sponsor:
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Thanks to the support of local sponsors



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

Editor: Connie Wigmore

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

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UNITARIAN CHURCH OF VANCOUVER

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Minister Emeritus

Rev. Dr. Phillip Hewett

Community Minister

Rev. Laura Imayoshi

Ministerial Intern

Joe Cherry

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Off to the races!

Cristin Lee, Director of Religious Exploration

(cristin@vancouverunitarians.ca)

Keeping pace at a steady sprint, I charge into a sea of new faces and as I attempt to get my bearings in the unfamiliar surroundings, I wish to thank the UCV community for such a warm welcome.

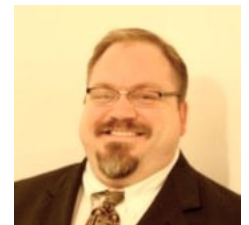
As I put on the DRE's shoes, tying the laces with anticipation, I take a quiet moment to reflect upon the path travelled before I eagerly make my first steps around the bend ahead. I am extremely grateful to Jennifer Fell for all her brick laying prior to my arrival and for her continued support as I transition into my new role. As the 2010 - 11 year makes its arrival, we are looking forward to our fall line-up for Children's RE.

The 3 - 6 year old group will continue to discover and learn through Spirit Play, the 7 - 8 year old group will explore the connection between science and spirit in *We Are Made of Stardust*, our 9 - 12 year old group will embark on an exciting journey to strengthen their personal identities in their Unitarian faith through *Traditions with a Wink* and our high school youth will mount the summit in an effort to foster confidence as they learn to articulate what faith means to them.

We have a wonderful group of volunteers, but are eager to welcome others who would be willing to commit once or twice a month to our programs. I hope everyone had a rejuvenating summer and I look forward to meeting all of you. ■

The journey west

Joe Cherry, Ministerial Intern



I got the keys to my new apartment today, and as my Mom and I walked around the empty space, two thoughts came to me: the last time I moved into an apartment while having no real furniture to speak of (I was twenty-one) and also Buddhism's call to lack of attachment as part of one's spiritual growth.

The physical journey to Vancouver began on July 31 just after dawn. I'd packed the car the night before, and Mom and I headed out from my folks' house in Port Huron, Michigan, which is directly across the border from Sarnia, ON. I'd never driven west of Davenport, Iowa before and I don't think my Mom had been west of Chicago in a car herself, so we were really off for an adventure!

It wasn't until we got midway through Iowa that the geography began to change noticeably. We went from seemingly endless, beautiful rolling hills to suddenly, the Missouri River, and it was almost as if someone had flipped a switch!

All my family was born in Detroit, Michigan, which is glaciated flatland. It was the glaciers in the last ice age, scraping along as they traveled south, that gave Michigan four of the five Great Lakes. (I know that Ontario also has four of the five Great Lakes.) I had never seen the Great Plains or really any mountains to speak of. I've seen a lot now!

Along the way Mom and I camped, and stayed in a cabin and in a hotel.

As we approached and then passed the Continental Divide, I began to feel excited about this year here in Vancouver, in a wholly different way. Before I crossed the Rockies, your invitation to me to become your Intern Minister, while greatly appreciated, had seemed far off, both in time and space. I'd watched the Olympics, I'd read the Church's monthly Bulletin, but somehow there was something still theoretical about it.

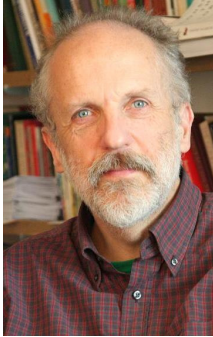
Once we crossed the Continental Divide though, things began to concretize.

(Continued on page 5)

From the minister's workshop In *eleven* minutes...

Rev. Dr. Steven Epperson
(minister@vancouverunitarians.ca)

Have you ever attended a worship service in another religion or congregation as a visitor? Recently I read that students of congregational life have found that first-time visitors will decide within *eleven minutes* whether they will return a second time. Not to alarm anyone, but it is certainly worth thinking about.



It takes a lot of imagination, courage, and *need* for a person or family to follow through on the decision to attend the religious services of an unknown faith community for the first time.

Imagine what factors bring people to our doors on Sunday morning (or what brought you to 49th and Oak for your initial visit!) Starting a new family, coping with the death of a loved one, seeking out new fellowship with

good people, the desire to deepen and experience spiritual life. The reasons are many, profound, and worthy of our deepest respect and welcome. And our window of opportunity to express and convey our respect and welcome is exceedingly small: *eleven minutes*...

We have a great deal to be thankful for at UCV: a beautiful sanctuary, a site readily accessible to transit, helpful greeters/welcomers, and a good congregation. Still, I wonder what kind of "presence" our church communicates to the first-time visitor? Have they stumbled into what may feel like a "family reunion" or an in-group closed shop, and thus feel like intruders or outsiders?

What would it be like for you if you were visiting UCV? Do we wear our good, new nametags? Do we greet strangers? Do we accompany visitors over to Hewett Hall and help introduce them to others during coffee hour?

If we want to grow and thrive, if we want to truly be a "welcoming congregation," I think we need to remember that at UCV not only will *we* be cared for (hopefully that's true); but, as well, we are called on to care for *others*.

We state clearly in the *UCV Mission/Vision Statement* that we are a

"compassionate and visionary community," and Michael Durrall, a Unitarian who has studied congregational life closely, has asserted that "the primary purpose of the church is to create a community of compassion. *All else flows from this.*"

Liberal religions such as ours have a responsibility and a calling to provide a "third way" between religiously dogmatic and secular consumerist worldviews and practices. That third way must be grounded in and expressed through genuinely compassionate outreach; a living and lively compassionate stance toward self and others that takes seriously the proposition that our religion is all about spiritual transformation. That work of transformation begins in those eleven minutes when we encounter first-time visitors to UCV. My deepest thanks go out to our greeters, ushers and welcome table volunteers. But remember, the compassionate calling to the "third way" of liberal, generative and welcoming religion is a blessing and duty all of us share. *All else flows from this...*

May 2010 - 11 see us really embody the visionary and compassionate aspirations of our beloved congregation! ■

A Thank You

From the Committee on Ministry

Elaine Spilos

From March to June, the Committee on Ministry (COM) conducted a ministerial review on behalf of the Board and our congregation. It is required that one be done every four years, and 2010 is the eighth year of Steven's ministry with us.

Thank you to all the members of the congregation who participated. Board members, COM members, and some church leaders completed an eight-part form provided by the UUA, and 57 of you took the time to complete a half-page feedback form, either at church on Sundays in April or by email. COM compiled all this data along with Steven's self evaluation, reviewed it with him and presented it to the Board on June 15.

It was gratifying that congregants who responded seemed to feel safe in providing input, suggestions, ideas and constructive criticism.

The report indicated that Steven's greatest strengths lie in

the areas of counselling and pastoral care, congregational/organizational ministry, personal and professional growth, worship, denominational activities, religious education, and social justice. In particular, respondents mentioned his warmth, the way he *walks the talk*, his ability to inspire, his intelligence and articulate presentation of issues, his compassion, his passion for the community and its work, his leadership, and his willingness to address difficult issues.

The Board, COM and Steven established that his priorities for the following church year will be:

- supervising the Ministerial Intern Joe Cherry
- continuing an active engagement with the Director of Religious Education and the RE Program
- integrating members into the congregation
- re-energizing a young adult program
- enlisting congregational action on the national housing initiative.

Thank you as well to Steven for all he does for Vancouver Unitarians!

Your 2009 - 10 COM is Hans Elfert, Danny Enright, Marg Fletcher, Gavin Grandish, Mary Lage and Elaine Spilos, Chair. ■



Fostering Community

Ann Foster

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

Hail and farewell to four more dear friends.

William Norman Hoye died peacefully May 17, aged 94, with his service held at UCV on May 20. Born in 1916,

Norm moved from Saskatchewan with his family to Vancouver in 1922. He enjoyed successful careers with the Canadian Air Force, then with the Canadian Airline Pilot's Association. In 1938 he married Claire and they had three children. Separating in 1983, he later met Marilyn Flitton, also a long-time, UCV member, who became his companion until her death in 2000. They loved their Gambier Island cabin, which Norm also enjoyed renovating. Another passion was flying, and he could build airplanes as well as fly them. In retirement, he became involved in Veterans Against Nuclear Arms (VANA) and the Suzuki Council of Elders. Norm leaves behind his recent companion as well as a son and two daughters, six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

John Church died May 29, peacefully, with his wife Shirley and his two daughters at his bedside. Born in Victoria Jan. 23, 1924, he was a longtime active UCV member and a high school teacher, later working in Professional Development for BCTF. He served on the COPE school board in the early 1980's. At UCV in retirement, he organized Daytimers events for three years. A private memorial service was held at Arbutus Manor on July 1, attended by most of his family, several of whom came from quite a distance. Shirley was touched by the many moving tributes given there in his honour. He leaves behind Shirley, his wife of more than sixty years, two daughters, a son and ten grandchildren. He was predeceased by a son, Eric.

Alma Hull died June 16 at Peace Arch Hospital. She was born July 27, 1921, in Liverpool. A war bride, she and her Canadian husband first lived in Peace River. After his untimely death, she and her young children moved to Edmonton where she studied education, and then to Vancouver where she got her degree in library science at UBC. She was a school librarian here for many years, and also a UCV member. In 1989, she moved to White Rock where she has been a South Fraser church member. Alma was a voracious reader who loved and supported all the arts and had recently been in a drumming circle. Her memorial service was held at the South Surrey church June 26. She was predeceased by her husband and survived by a daughter, three sons, nine grandchildren and eleven great grandchildren.

Harold Alexander (Hal) Logan died of a brain tumor at Peace Arch Hospital July 26, with a memorial service held August 20 in White Rock. Hal was born Oct. 6, 1923, in Niagara Falls, Ontario. An accomplished author, artist, architect, lawyer, and organist, he was "instrumental" in acquiring the small organ in our loft. (His friend donated it.) Hal believed he could do whatever he set his mind to, enjoying a

life "full of challenges, travels and projects." He had two daughters and a son with his first wife Dorothy "Dot", and later married Shirley Johnson. He is survived by Shirley, three children, five grandchildren and a great grand child.

Gary and Deirdre Hetherington have enjoyed lots of quality time both in Ottawa and in Vancouver, bonding with new grandson Kieran, their first grandchild, born March 4, to parents Erin and Nathaniel Gordon in Ottawa. A dedication ceremony was held at UCV June 27.

Basil (Bas) Robinson and **Dianne Crosbie** accepted Unsung Hero Awards at our June 6 service. Bas, a member since 1961, was Board Chair for three years in the 1980's and also chaired the Koerner Fund Committee for many years. Dianne has chaired the Membership Committee and sung in the choir for many years, and in recent years, has been co-chairing the Thrift Sale Committee and serving as the choir librarian. Congratulations to both Bas and Dianne for receiving these well-deserved awards!

Pam and Bob Rickey will be spreading their wings while going back to their roots. After twenty years of living in Vancouver, they've headed for Pam's home town of Medicine Hat, where she has two daughters and four grandchildren (Bob's a prairie boy, too). They'll be traveling for two years all around North America in their 1971 Dodge motor home. You can follow their travels at www.gypsyrickeys.blogspot.com.

Elena Fumi, is now back in Pisa, Italy. Her contact information is in the office and she would welcome visits from UCV friends.

Gavin Grandish, **Eva Perjes** and their two daughters, **Ariel**, 7 and **Rayka**, 5, have been living a housing horror story this past year! After several months and several moves, in June they finally moved into a child-friendly, clean and reasonably priced apartment in Fairview Slopes Throughout, the family has maintained their cheerful composure with Gavin ably leading the choir through a great spring term. They even managed a trip to Hungary in July to visit Eva's family.

Another July traveller was our **Minister Emeritus**, **Phillip Hewett**. That's when he was one of three Canadians to attend two conferences in the Netherlands, one for ministers and the other for theologians. About eighty people came, from nineteen countries. He "came away with a deeper understanding of what we hold in common as well as our differences. Transylvanians celebrated the 20th anniversary of the Partner Church program. Unitarianism is growing quickly in Africa, and the idea to bring African interns to North America or Europe was discussed.

Finally, two of our older members have moved recently: **Cary Grundy** moved last spring to Langara Hospital and would love to hear from friends, as would **Margaret Dietrich**, still a UCV member despite her move several years ago to Penticton. Recently, she has moved to assisted living there, and is delighted with her new digs. Contact information is available in our office. ■



Kathryn Aberle
Water Gems

TO BEGIN AGAIN
(Margaret Murdoch said this poem was a palimpsest...)

carefully
painfully
I have cleared my slate

have I been too thorough?
have you seen
my chalk?

Franci Louann

Art in the Church

Abstracts and symbols

A.J. Brown (www.handsandpurrs.ca)



This is an abstract art exhibit. There are sayings or quotations within the paintings. The exhibit also has symbols. A.J. Brown hopes these uplift and inspire people.

Some of the work is watercolour on panel, which is a new medium for A.J. She first started this in November 2009. A.J. hopes the works open people up for more spirituality, and peace. This is fun and lighthearted art.

(Also tinyurl.com/ya69qwt, and twitter.com/artbyajb) ■

(Continued from page 2) *The Journey West* by Joe Cherry

Our year together was no longer “Way over there somewhere,” it was more like “Oh my gosh, it’s around the corner!”

With the help of some of the members of the congregation and the church staff, I’ve been able to settle in almost 100%. I have an apartment; soon I’ll have internet at home. I’m able to commute to the church without using my GPS already!

Buddhism teaches many things, but the lesson I have been walking with most closely is that things will be as they should be. This lesson—both small and great simultaneously—has helped during this transition. I’ll be talking more about that when I preach for the first time here, on September 26.

I am grateful for this chance to grow in my ministry with you. I look forward to meeting you in person very soon. ■

A completely dark performance hall

Diane Crosbie

On Friday, September 24, at 7:30 pm, pianist and composer, Frank Horvat, takes his audience on a musical journey as he performs original music in honour of Earth Hour, in a completely dark performance hall.

This marks the release of his CD, *A Little Dark Music*, and it’s one of the many concerts in a year-long cross-Canada tour called the *Green Keys Tour*.

Admission is freewill donation (in support of greening the UCV Sanctuary). ■



Library news

Elizabeth Murdoch

Until September 12, we have an actual bookstore in Hitsuksmanova. We are accepting donations of well cared for books until August 30. We have more great titles than ever, and the prices are right!

The Writers’ Fest is October 19 - 24 on Granville Island. Check out some of the writers’ work from our library, such as *The No. 1 Ladies’ Detective Agency* series by Alexander McCall Smith and *The Cellist of Sarajevo* by Steven Galloway.

With Labour Day reminding us to celebrate work and workers, these books may spark your interest:

The Art of Happiness at Work by Dalai Lama

Executive EQ by Robert Cooper

The Fight of My Life by Maude Barlow

Prospering Together, the Economic Impact of the Aboriginal Title Settlements in B.C. by Roslyn Kunin

And don’t forget the children’s section has wonderful books, including some by UCV authors.

The Literature Stall cart in Hewett Hall each Sunday offers paper copies of sermons (a small charge) and for borrowing: audio copies of sermons prior to 2010 and a few fiction and nonfiction videos.

Come on in! Borrow, browse, sit quietly and read, make a recommendation for additions to our collection, ask a reference question.

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

Adult religious education coming your way!

UCV's professional ministers are pleased to announce that they will be offering UCV's Autumn 2010 Adult RE Curriculum. Classes for UCV members and friends. Details about courses, schedules, and registration will soon be available.

Faithful Fools street retreat

Finding spirit, self and others in the Downtown Eastside

Led by UCV's **Community Minister Rev. Laura Imayoshi.**



Roots hold me close

An introduction to Unitarian history and ideas taught by **UCV Minister Emeritus Rev. Dr. Phillip Hewett**—especially for newer UCV members though all are invited!

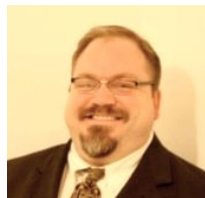


Hand work, spirit work

An overnight mini-retreat where the members of the congregation will learn/practice a handcraft, discuss the spiritual dimension of the craft, and the impact of it in the world around us.

Possible crafts include: jam-making, quilting, knitting, soap-carving, bookshelf making, or mosaic-chalice making.

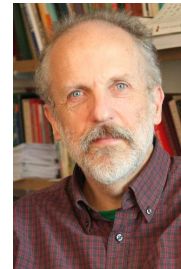
Led by **Intern Minister Joe Cherry.**



Meditation for people (like me) who can't sit still and empty their minds

An approach to meditative practice inspired by ancient Stoic philosophy.

Led by **Rev. Dr. Steven Epperson**



UCV's national affordable housing/congregation building effort begins!

Rev. Dr. Steven Epperson

Beginning September 23, join **Rev. Steven Epperson**, UCV Social Justice Committee, and UCV members and friends every third Thursday of the month for dinner, music, fellowship and good, old-time social justice activism—our letter writing campaign to MPs calling for a national affordable housing policy gets under way.

Last May, the CUC Annual Meeting passed our National Housing Resolution unanimously. This was a necessary first step in achieving an essential aspiration guided by Unitarian principles. However, resolutions come and go; the main thing now is to persist in the most effective way we can—communicating directly in writing to our MPs, calling for a national affordable housing policy.

We can do this and have fun, enjoy one another's company, and strengthen our congregation.

Doors at Hewett Hall will open at 5 pm. Bring a potluck dish. We'll start eating at 6pm. When we finish eating, we will write letters to our MPs following an effective letter writing template. (You can bring your own personalized stationary from home if you wish.) We'll wrap up writing and clean up by at 7:15 pm so Chalice Choir members can go to choir practice.

Steven hopes to see Third Thursdays widely supported and attended by the UCV congregation—young, middling, and senior, veteran and new member alike. We can strengthen our fellowship, express our commitment to social justice, have fun, and provide a model for other UU congregations in Canada—we'll circulate our Third Thursdays program ideas with examples of how to write to MPs.

Here's to congregational health and service to the wider community!

Bring the family. Invite your friends. Childcare will be provided. ■

UCV 2010 - 11 Canvass—climbing Mount Sustainability

David Marmorek, Canvass Committee Co-chair

Like many mountaineering expeditions, UCV's climb up Mount Sustainability this year had some ups and downs.

We got up to \$362,000, 91% of the way to our intended summit of \$400,000. This involved lots of base camp phone calls by your sturdy Canvass Committee, pursuing clusters of climbers in the Great Valley of the Unpledged. Eventually three quarters of our community made pledges, with a few serious cases of UPPS (Unitarian Pledge Procrastination Syndrome) at higher altitudes.

We were very impressed and grateful that 151 climbers, 40% of us, increased their pledges over last year, propelling us \$34,000 higher. Unfortunately, another 16% of us were struck by serious illness, raging storms of economic uncertainty or leaky tents. They were forced to decrease their pledges, dropping us \$40,000 lower down the slopes of Mount Sustainability. Ups and downs, including some big downs, with a net drop of \$6,000. With over half of our pledges coming from just one fifth of our community, we're vulnerable when some of our strongest and most loyal climbers are forced to descend back to Base Camp.

UCV's Mount Sustainability is unlike any other mountain. Most peaks are only climbable for a few months of the year, with climbers making a valiant push during episodes of good weather. Our 2010-11 canvass drive was just such a push. But Mount Sustainability can be climbed all year, in every kind of weather that Vancouver stirs up, with each dollar moving us closer to the summit, and a secure financial foundation for the future.

An extra \$4 each Sunday from 200 people would bring us \$41,000, right up to the summit, with enough spare change to celebrate with some millet wine and yak cheese on our descent. UCV has been pioneering new routes for 101 years; let's not stop now just because we had a bit of bad weather.



Our second century is just beginning. We **will** reach the summit of Mount Sustainability, with great views of such peaks as Mt. Spirit, Mt. Music, Mt. Social Justice, Mt. Religious Education and even Mt. Affordable Housing (just over the horizon).

However, this will only happen when the loads are shared more equitably. Both the pledging load and the canvassing load must be passed from our veteran (but aging!) climbers to the next generation.

It's all up to the 400 or so that call this place home. Indeed, unlike many other very worthy entities which have

tens of thousands of contributors, the UCV community relies on just the 400 of us to make our beautiful mission real. And in return we receive spiritual, intellectual and emotional renewal every week! That's worth thinking about for next year's canvass.

If you'd like to join the 2011-12 expedition, please contact the Canvass Committee – you'll have lots of fun and simultaneously make a very positive, essential contribution to our community.

David Marmorek (604 874-1153) and Eleanore Dunn (604 251-1943) ■

Lunch servers are urgently needed!

Doris Lowe (604 435-6183)

Why not provide a much needed service to your fellow congregants and at the same time fundraise for your favourite UCV group or project.

So far the only lunch scheduled for September is the 12th.

To schedule a date for your group to serve a lunch, contact Doris Lowe at 604-435-6183.



Daytimers

Bring your suggestions

Wanda Justice (604-327-1851)

The first meeting of the season for Daytimers will take place in the Fireside Room at 11:00 am on September 7, wherein we will discuss all suggestions for program ideas. Bring your interest in history, music, poetry, miracles and disasters, and don't forget to bring your lunch.

September 23, the fourth Thursday of the month, will be time for the next meeting, 11:00 am to 2:00 pm in the Fireside Room, and, of course, you are invited. ■



First Friday Focus

Philosophy Slam

Randall MacKinnon, (604-582-4651)

September 3, 7 - 9 pm, Hewett Centre

...the program you've been waiting for...

If you like charades or Pictionary, you'll love Philosophy Slam. The participants each have a chance to draw an interesting quote from a barrel, and then say something intelligent, funny, whatever...to the delight of others.

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. ■



The Refugee Committee

Virginia Crabill (604-731-9393)

The Refugee Committee has kept busy over the summer working with our families. Our Karen family has a newborn, as well as their pre-school age daughter, and is sharing housing with relatives while job-searching. Our young Palestinian family has become very fluent in English and their toddler's health has dramatically improved since their arrival. We are finalizing plans to bring another Palestinian family here. They are relatives of our current family and the expenses have been provided for. This is a multi-faith undertaking involving UCV, the Quaker community and local Muslim groups.

We will be having our annual service on October 3. Also in October, we will begin our Raffle, which ends in December. The raffle prizes include one of Pat Meyer's fantastic quilts, a painting, and an elegant shawl. Of course we will continue with our popular lunches twice a month.

We are always being offered household items, clothing and such, but alas, we have no storage space. If anyone out there has some space where we can store items until such time as they can be distributed to incoming refugee families, we would be very grateful.

The Refugee Committee meets the fourth Sunday of each



month, at 12:30 in Castellio. All are welcome ! Bring your lunch, coffee and a friend.

For more information about the Refugee Committee, contact either of the co-chairs, Fiona Graham and Virginia Crabill. Check out our bulletin board in Hewett Centre. If you wish to financially assist the Refugee Committee, you can place your gift in an offering envelope during the service, or bring it to the office. Please write in the memo space "For the Sheilah Thompson Refugee Fund". We are very appreciative of the generosity of this congregation. ■



First meeting for the new church year

Unitarian Music Club

David Donaldson

The Unitarian Music Club's first meeting of the new church year will take place on Monday, September 27 at 7:30 in the Sanctuary.

The evening will consist of a short informal concert with performances by Noel Armstrong, Ann Foster, Carter Maitland, Daniel Pellerin, Gerard Satamian, and Janet Tsukioka, followed by a social period.

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.

Other meetings in 2010 - 2011: October 25; November 29; December 20 (Fireside Room); January 31; February 28; March 28; April 25; May 30; June 20 (Fireside Room). All meetings other than the two indicated take place in the Sanctuary.

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

Environment Committee

10/10/10

Karl Perrin, Chair (604-872-7326)

Continuous improvement is better than delayed perfection.

- Mark Twain

Guess what. After twenty-two years, the climate battle isn't over. It's just beginning. Staying in our comfort zone, making small sacrifices so our kids don't run out of the comfortable climate we've enjoyed, isn't enough. The evidence is all around: Moscow, Gulf of Mexico, the Arctic. So, of course, there will be refugees from climate/oil disasters.

I'm a refugee from the ghost-city Detroit, so I thank you, Vancouver, for letting me in. We are blessed with a mild climate. We can be grateful that Shirley Chan *et al* stopped the



UCV's education agency pilot program

Our Children's Table evaluation and next steps

By Leslie Kemp

The pilot of Our Children's Table was completed in early June. Following this, a six week Food Skills for Families program took place in collaboration with a number of community partners. This concluded in late July. Before any future programming takes place, the Advisory Committee has agreed to review the results of the evaluation prepared by Diana Ellis for the Advisory Committee and UCV Board.

The final evaluation report of Our Children's Table was completed at the end of July and Advisory Committee members have met to discuss the report and consider next steps. We will be forwarding our recommendations concerning future programs on food and community outreach to the UCV Board at its September meeting.



The evaluation report identified many positive elements of Our Children's Table program. The evaluation also identified the considerable commitment of resources involved including volunteer time and energy, particularly on the part of the Coordinators. In considering what future programs may take place, the Advisory Committee wants to take into consideration the strengths of UCV, the community needs and how most effectively to use UCV's financial and human resources.

On behalf of the Advisory Committee, I would like to extend our appreciation to Diana Ellis for her very thorough and helpful evaluation report. This report is available in the Library.

Our new Y.O.B.!

An interview with Casey Stainsby

Debra Thorne

Casey has been part of the UCV community since she was born. She transitioned out of the youth group last year and is moving to Montreal this fall to attend university.

The Canadian Youth Leadership structure is such that each region is governed by its own Youth-Adult Committee (YAC). YAC are responsible for hosting conferences and training and being a networking resource between youth groups in their region.

The Canadian Youth-Adult Committee (CAYAC) is made up of representatives from each of the regional YACs as well as the Youth Observer to the Board (YOB) of the Canadian Unitarian Council (CUC). In late 2008 the CAYAC dissolved, leaving Sean Barron, YOB at the time, with unfinished projects and no clear lines of communication. It is largely thanks to Sean's efforts that the CUC created the position of Youth and Young Adult Programmer and hired Ariel Hunt-Bronswin (also from UCV) to fill it in May 2010.



Q: First of all, what is your role as the new YOB?

Casey: The YOB is the Youth Observer to the CUC Board. I sit in on Board meetings and discussions and offer a youth perspective and I'm responsible for bringing youth-related issues to the Board's attention. Technically I liaise between the CAYAC and the Board but at the moment I will mostly be working with Ariel as an advocate.

Q: Can you tell me how you became the new YOB?

Casey: I was elected by the youth at the last CanUuddle (the youth conference that happens at the same time of the CUC ACM), last May in Victoria.

Q: How do you feel about being the YOB?

Casey: I'm honoured and really excited about how much learning I have to do. I have really big shoes to fill following Sean Barron from Calgary who held the position that last two years. Sean moved mountains! I recognize that it is up to me to keep the momentum going.

Q: How are you planning on doing that?

Casey: First thing is to work closely with Ariel, to reconnect with the last generation of leaders and rebuild youth leadership structures across the country. There is a lot of networking and communication to be done.

Q: What is your long-term vision?

Casey: Once there is an actual functioning CAYAC to liaise with, which realistically will take a year or more to get moving, the vision is to create a covenant between the CUC and

(Continued on page 10)

Planned Giving Advisory

September is usually kickoff month for the church year's activities. It's a good time to review if you've thought about the Unitarian Church of Vancouver in your estate planning.

Consider committing to sustaining our heritage and our legacy as a free, liberal religious institution, the next time you review your estate planning.

Contact the Legacy Committee, Rainer Borkenhagen (604-221-6631).



UCV Calendar – September 2010

Please refer to your weekly Order of Service for updates, or go online at www.vancouverunitarians.ca

Fri. 3	7 – 10 pm, First Friday Focus, Fireside
Sun. 5	12 – 2 pm, Forum, Dig In for Climate Justice, Fireside
Wed. 8	7 – 9:30 pm, Pagan Group, Fireside
Sun. 12	12:30, Environment Committee, Lindsey-Priestley
Mon. 13	1 – 3 pm, Visual Arts Group, Hitchensmanova
Fri. 17	5:30 - 7:30 pm, Sacred Circle Dancing, Fireside
Sun. 19	12:30 - 1:30 pm, Forum, Fireside
Sun. 19	1 – 3 pm, New Women's Group, Lindsey-Priestley
Wed. 22	7 – 9:30 pm, Pagan Group, Fireside
Thur. 23	11 am – 2 pm, Daytimers, Fireside
Fri. 24	7:30 pm, concert, Sanctuary
Sun. 26	12 – 2 pm, Forum, Fireside
Mon. 27	6:30 – 10 pm, UCV Music Club, Sanctuary

UCV Forums

Mary Bennett



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

September 5

Dig In for Climate Justice

Eric Doherty

On Sunday, 10/10/10, at 2pm take direct action against climate crime. The South Fraser Freeway would greatly increase carbon emissions, and trash BC's best farmland. We can stop it, if you dig in and help! This work party is sponsored by The Company of Canadians and Gateway Sucks. Presenter Eric Doherty has been an anti-Gateway writer and activist since 2006.

September 12

No forum

September 19

tba

September 26

Letters from the Lost: A Memoir of Discovery

Helen Waldstein Wilkes

Helen's family escaped the Nazis in March of 1939, settled in southern Ontario where they learned to be Canadian and forgot their Jewish roots. As an adult, Helen learned about her past and the fates of her family in Europe from old letters and it changed everything.

Helen will describe her experiences and her book, *Letters from the Lost: A Memoir of Discovery*, in which she has woven her family's stories and her own into a compelling narrative of suffering, survivor guilt, and overcoming intergenerational obstacles.

Saturday, November 20 **The Fall Gathering of Unitarians and Unitarian- Universalists**

from British Columbia's eleven Fellowships and Churches will take place at the Unitarian Church of Vancouver.

(Continued from page 8) Environment Committee Strathcona freeway, and modeled densification in Chinatown. There's room for refugees, but also, we need to protect farms, the migrating birds and fish, and the lungs of our children from carbon monoxide and ozone, and from PM10 from burning bogs and diesel trucks.

So let us stand up to the wasting of the Fraser Estuary by that truckin' SFPR freeway. (And on Oct. 17 join the flotilla to prevent expansion of Tar Sands oil to Burnaby or Kitimat, as we say "No Tanks" to coastal oil tankers.)

On 10/10/10 we will join the Global Work Party (see 350.org) by digging into the pre-load sand next to Surrey's Bridgeview Elem., and moving it in sand bags to the rising river. Join the Company of Canadians and Gateway Sucks, 2 - 4:30 pm, Sunday, 10/10/10, car-pooling from the UCV parking lot at 1pm. Can't bag sand? Join the Family Zone for sand art and music.

The Environment Committee will meet in Lindsey-Priestley on Sunday, Sept. 12 at 12:30.

Save trees—
read ***The Bulletin***
online



www.vancouverunitarians.ca

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(Continued from page 9) Casey Stainsby

its youth, to guide our future relationship.

Q: *What are you excited about?*

Casey: This is a time of huge transformation and revisioning for Canadian Youth Ministry and there is more energy being put into it than there has been for a long time. So much potential! I'm super stoked about the next ACM in Toronto, we're working on bringing the biggest youth and young adult presence ever! Young folks have so much to offer – it's time to step up and shine.

Q: *Congratulations on your new position and good travels!*