



THE BULLETIN

THE UNITARIAN CHURCH OF VANCOUVER JUNE 2009

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CHURCH SERVICES IN JUNE

Our Living Tradition

Sunday, June 7, 11 AM
Rev. Dr. Steven Epperson

Why is UCV a vital, provocative, beautiful, meaningful place? Find out as we celebrate our shared ministry: that's you and all of us. A rousing, annual worship service. Joyce Poley leads us in song at 10:45.

Hope in a Hopeless Time

Sunday, June 14, 11 AM
Bennett Mitten

As human beings we live within a constellation of stories through which we orient ourselves to one another and to the world. So central are these patterns of meaning for humankind that the First Nations writer Thomas King has stated that, in our essence, "all we are" are stories.

In this worship service, Bennett Mitten will suggest that concealed within perhaps the most frightening story of our time, the possible imminent extinction of our very species, lies an unseen message, a deep story as compelling and marvellous as any in human history.

Bridging It

Sunday, June 21, 11 AM
Rev. Dr. Steven Epperson

This Father's Day, with ritual, music and the spoken word, we honour those young people who are graduating from high school and our Youth Programme: a transcendent experience as they cross the threshold into adulthood.

The Story We Tell of Ourselves

Sunday, June 28, 11 AM
Rev. Dr. Steven Epperson

Summer is upon us: the minister goes on vacation—we are celebrating our centenary; it has a story. How does our story connect and contribute to the story of this place—of Vancouver, our region and our country? What is our narrative? What is the story we tell of ourselves?

New URL for UCV

We have a new domain name for Vancouver Unitarians:

www.vancouverunitarians.ca. What's different? It's the removal of the dot between the words vancouver and unitarians. With our own domain name we are now able to create email addresses specific to the church.

We begin with two new addresses: bulletin@vancouverunitarians.ca which should be used for all submissions to *The Bulletin* beginning immediately, and web@vancouverunitarians.ca which is the place to send information to be published on the website.

Other specific addresses now in effect include:

caroline@vancouverunitarians.ca
info@vancouverunitarians.ca
minister@vancouverunitarians.ca
ravina@vancouverunitarians.ca
samantha@vancouverunitarians.ca
tamara@vancouverunitarians.ca

Notice of Extraordinary General Meeting

June 14, 2009, 12:30 - 3:30 pm
Registration: 12:00 noon

Hewett Centre
Unitarian Church
of Vancouver

Agenda and motions for the meeting will be mailed the last week of May.



Final Bulletin Mailout, (Not Final Bulletin)

This June issue of *The Bulletin* will be the last one to be mailed to the congregation. Starting with the July issue, *The Bulletin* will be available in print form at the Church and electronically by email broadcast and on the website. The Communications Committee has tried over the past year to encourage people to receive *The Bulletin* by email rather than post. It's time to take a determined approach to making this happen. Eliminating the mailing of *The Bulletin* will save the church about \$3,000 annually, and reduce our paper use.

If you are not yet receiving *The Bulletin* via email, simply email ucvbulletinsubscribe@googlegroups.com and we will put you on the electronic distribution list.

—Scott Jackson, Chair,
Communications Committee

From the Minister's Workshop

‘That Transcending Mystery and Wonder’: A Note on ‘Spirituality’

A brief response to a need that some of you express from time to time—the need for “more spirituality” in your lives and in our congregation.

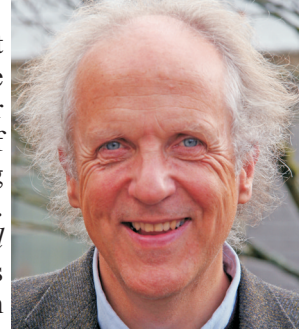
Maybe it’s in the very nature of my work; I don’t always understand where the lack, the absence is, because almost every day my life is immersed in and nourished by “spirituality.” But I don’t think one has to be a professional minister to approach and cross over the threshold into “transcending mystery and wonder”: that gateway is at hand to each of us if we would but step up and through it.

Here I am reminded of a prescriptive injunction I grew up with: “Stand ye in holy places and be not moved.” Direct experience of “mystery and wonder” doesn’t just happen; do we see the holy before us? Do we seek it out; situate ourselves in its precincts, take up practices to bid it welcome and invite it to abide? The problem, perhaps, is that we would dismiss the very sites and means of experience as too “prosaic.”

Where does spirituality occur for me? Listening to the rising day before I leap from my bed. Savouring the taste, smell, and texture of the food I eat and drink; and thinking, with thanks, of how it was produced and prepared. Dumping peels, coffee grinds, and leftovers in my compost box and marvelling at the chemistry of nature before replacing the lid. Taking time for a note or letter to a friend or a church member whose life I value and presence I miss, all the while considering the boundless, mystery and wonder of that person’s life. Reading a bedtime story to a child—the one thing I’m really good at, and thankful for, thankful to participate in bringing the adventure and discovery of imaginative literature to a young person.

If you want to be amazed, spiritualized, consider what Steven Weinberg, an ardent atheist and the Nobel Prize winning physicist, once said: “I have to admit that sometimes nature seems more beautiful than is strictly necessary.” In the

past ten years, reading some great popular science has been a recipe for “spirituality” in my life; for nothing can provoke a sense of awe from me like contemplating and learning about nature itself. (See Chet Raymo’s *Skeptics and True Believers*, Tim Flannery’s *The Eternal Frontier*, John Horgan’s *Rational Mysticism*, Bill Bryson’s *A Short History of Nearly Everything*, Oliver Morton’s *Eating the Sun...*, etc.)



And did I mention visiting and bringing a meal, flowers, a card to someone on the mend from an illness, an operation or unable to get out of the house? Or marching through the streets of Vancouver with thousands of people in support for social housing? Or joining a covenant group and enjoying the creative interchange that can take place there? Or teaching an RE class? Or appreciating the fabulous music on Sunday mornings, or the silence in the Sanctuary during the meditation? And the smiles, the greetings, the warmth of a person’s hand when grasping it in welcome?

I think I just want to say: let’s wake up! Look around! Step into and savour the Presence that awaits! We don’t have to be a saint; we don’t need a guru to experience more “spirituality” in our lives. In Emerson’s words, we can be “acquainted first-hand with Deity.” It’s right there. All around us.

Steven Epperson
Rev. Dr. Steven Epperson

ARE Programme Planning Is Underway!

Submissions are being accepted for fall, 2009 ARE programmes. Do you have an idea for a programme that you would like see run here at UCV? Submit it by June 30 to Caroline Farley (caroline@vancouverunitarians.ca).

The Bulletin

is the monthly newsletter of the Unitarian Church of Vancouver

Submission deadline is:

The third day of the month preceding the month of issue. All submissions *must* follow standard guidelines used in the publishing world, a copy of which is available in the church office or from the editor.

Gerry Hayle, Editor

Ph. & Fax: 604-322-1644

bulletin@vancouverunitarians.ca

MINISTERS AND LAY CHAPLAINS:

Rev. Dr. Steven F. Epperson: Parish Minister
Rev. Dr. Phillip Hewett: Minister Emeritus
Rev. Laura Friedman: Community Minister
Lay Chaplains: Phyllis Bassett, Dan Enright, Katherine Roback, Wayne Ulian

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Caroline Farley: Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration
Harold Douglas Brown: Director of Music Emeritus
Donna Brown: Choir Director
Elliott Dainow: Music Assistant
Custodians: Stan Clarke, Gerald Hernesmaa, Wenta Tu’ume, Christie Maxson, Jeff Taylor

R.E.Update

By CAROLINE FARLEY, Director,
Lifespan Religious Exploration

Happy Spring! All is well in Religious Exploration this month. I wanted to include here something I posted on ucv-chat after our youth group trip to New York in April.



Last month, on Good Friday, six of our youth and two advisors, Nancy Woodham and I, boarded a plane for New York. We were heading off to explore the city and attend the annual intergenerational seminar put on each April by the youth connected with the Unitarian Universalist United Nations Organization. We had an amazing time touring New York, taking in all the favourites; the Empire State Building, the Museum of Natural History, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Museum of Modern Art, Time Square, Greenwich Village, the East Village, SOHO shopping district, Canal Street, Chinatown and, of course Central Park. The group also took a harbour tour where they were able to see a number of other New York sites including Lady Liberty herself.

The conference began on Wednesday evening for the youth. They gathered and worshipped together at Fourth UU church in Manhattan which was to be our home for the next three nights. Thursday morning we were divided into our “Jark” squads, or travelling groups, and headed off to the United Nations Church centre for the day. The speakers were excellent! The topic for this year’s seminar was “Religion, Rights and Responsibility” and focussed specifically on gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender rights locally and internationally. A young man from India told his “coming out” story and the torture that he suffered as a result of being found out, at the hands of both his own family and the police. We heard from a 15 year old participant in the conference how three weeks ago he came into the locker room after gym class only to find that his clothing had been urinated on because he is gay (he has been living with this harassment since he was 11 years old). We heard from gay and lesbian ministers, activists and people of a whole variety of faith groups. We laughed, were angered and cried.

I have to say that I went into this experience feeling pretty complacent. I thought that the fight was over; we have same sex marriage in Canada and things are pretty good; so we’re done, right? I have come out of this experience knowing that the “fight” is by no means over. In our *own* community last month, a twelve year old boy committed suicide in Maple Ridge because he could no longer take the teasing and taunting that he had been receiving because he had been *perceived* as being gay. *Perceived*.

The time has come for us in Canada to begin to put pressure on the world community to grant GLBT rights as

President’s Message

By ELISABETH GELLER

My experience has been that most Unitarians are proud of the fact that each of our congregations is self-governing, and justifiably so. Unlike other faith communities, a Unitarian congregation need only look to its members to see its pathway forward. There is no synod or other body that defines our worship and congregational life. While this is exciting and meaningful, it also carries with it serious responsibility. This is the responsibility not only to be financial stewards of UCV (something I’ve spoken about at length in the past) but also to be democratic stewards as well. This means playing a role in how decisions are made in this church; being prepared to take on the work of democracy and self-government.

I raise this topic because later this month will be the church’s Extraordinary General Meeting. This meeting is generally held in June each year and has a varied agenda—the cornerstone of which is the budget for the upcoming fiscal year. This year is no exception: the Board will be presenting its budget and seeking the approval of the congregation in order to operate for the coming year. I urge you to join us on Sunday, June 14 at 12:30 (following services) for this meeting and play your important role as a steward of this faith community.

just what they are; *human rights*. I also think that part of the answer for our own communities lies in widespread education at the elementary and secondary levels on acceptance and tolerance of one another. Write letters to your politicians, talk to your school principals and school boards, volunteer to run a gay/straight alliance group in your local high school or advocate for there to be one; every little bit will help. We are in an excellent position in Canada as a progressive and forward thinking nation to put pressure on the world community to affect change. Our politicians just need to hear that we, their constituents, want them to.

What an experience this has been for our youth! I want to extend a personal thank you to all of you who supported our youth by buying cookies, having your car washed, buying food certificates and making personal donations towards the cost of the trip. Your support has been greatly utilized. Thank you for making this trip possible and helping our youth to become better global citizens of our world. Also a very special thank you to Nancy Woodham who volunteered and used her work holiday time in order to bring our youth on this trip: your sacrifice was enormously appreciated!



Registration for Unitarian Family Camp 2009!

Come share in the beauty and rejuvenating spirit of Camp Sasamat this summer!

Unitarian Family Camp 2009 will run at Camp Sasamat June 5-7. Registrations are now being accepted. Set in the natural splendour of Belcarra Regional Park, the camp offers swimming, boating and hiking. Other activities are walks around the lake, felting with your children, a games corner and line dancing to name a few.

Due to popular demand, we are again offering an inspiring choral workshop led by Alison Nixon! To download a brochure, go to www.beaconunitarian.org/sasamat-brochure-09.pdf. The registrar, Dan Theal, can be directly contacted at dantheal@yahoo.ca. Cross your fingers for warmer weather than 2008!

—Anne Merrett-hiley, UCV Liaison, Sasamat Camp Committee

For Pete's Sake Sing! A Roaring Success!

More than 350 people filled the Sanctuary at UCV to the rafters on May 3 to honour Pete Seeger on his 90th birthday. They came to hear the voices of three Unitarian choirs: the Chalice Choir, Beacon Choir and the North Shore Choir, plus Solidarity Notes Labour Choir and ErRatica, all in celebration of the great man.

MC Rev. Steven Epperson kept the lively evening moving along and did a masterful job of entertaining the audience as each of the choirs took to the stage. The finale was thrilling as 140 singers were joined by members of the audience in a roof-raising rendition of *If I Had a Hammer*.

The proceeds of the concert, more than \$5,200, go to support the creation of Cottage Farm, a residential therapeutic centre for people suffering from mental illness.

—Kathryn Aberle

Profile: Michael Welton

I was born into the Anglican Church, but in 1958 I became a Baptist after "accepting Jesus" at a Youth Crusader's rally in North Vancouver. By the 1970's, now in Toronto after a two-year spell with CUSO in Nigeria, I moved left and explored liberation theology and Marxism. The scales fell from my eyes as I discovered the Bible's core teaching was "Do justice"!



Michael Welton

In the early 1980s, I was writing my doctoral dissertation on Watson Thomson who worked with Tommy Douglas in Saskatchewan to build a socialist learning society. Watson died in 1969, but I became friends with his widow, Mary, who encouraged me to attend the Unitarian Church. Watson and Mary had both been active Unitarians. With my ex-wife and three small children we came for a time. We loved the elegance of Rev. Hewett's exquisitely crafted sermons and the open vibrancy of the people. In 1983, I moved to Halifax to teach adult education at Dalhousie.

My wife Carmen and I returned to BC in 2003 and joined UCV in January, 2008. I now see that I am a religious humanist with deep affinities to radical Christian themes.

I feel the spirit of Unitarian principles infused my teaching and writing. Still, sadness tinges my heart: it would have been so good to sojourn with crazy UU's during the wilderness years. It is a sweet irony that I am writing a history of this church and leading a group "Conversations with the Bible." Watson would love this, I am sure.

—Michael Welton,
michaelwelton@shaw.ca

REFUGEE COMMITTEE

Busy Month for Refugee Committee

The Refugee Committee sponsored an informative talk by Gloria Nafzinger on May 11, concerning the imminent wave of Palestinian refugees coming to Canada. We will keep you posted on coming developments on this important issue. The Committee also launched a new cookbook, led the annual refugee service on May 17 and hosted successful fundraising lunches. Thanks for your generous support.

The money you contribute to the Refugee Committee is put to a wide variety of uses including translators and interpreters, long-distance phone calls, and the cost of some necessities of life for refugees when they arrive. One important item it helps provide are bus passes so our sponsored refugees can go to language classes and look for work. Refugees must pay off their travel loans within the first year of arriving in Canada.

There are many ways to assist refugees that do not involve money. You can contact your MP and other government officials on refugee issues. You can visit refugees, show them around, and help them get settled in. You can help them learn English (or French) as well as computer or cooking skills.

In June, the Refugee Committee will provide lunch after church on the 7th and 14th. Its next meeting is on June 28th right after the service.

To find out more about the Refugee Committee, contact the co-chairs, Fiona Graham and Virginia Crabill. If you wish to assist the Committee financially, send a cheque to UCV or place it in an envelope in the donation plate on Sundays, with the memo "For Sheilah Thompson Refugee Fund".

—Virginia Crabill,
Refugee/Social Justice Liaison

DAYTIMERS

Strawberry Dreams

Is wisdom shareable? Sages have thought this to be true from the present throughout the history of wo/mankind. This idea, the soothing, energizing and/or mobilizing power of music, together with the pleasures of eating strawberry shortcake in the company of friends will comprise the subjects and matter of Daytimers' programs in the month of June. It's not too late for you to pack a lunch and join this thoughtful group on one or both of the following Thursdays.

In the Fireside Room on Thursday, 4th June at 11:00 AM, Joan Armstrong will speak on From Aging to Sage-ing. Discussion will continue over lunch and will be followed at 1:00 PM with an hour of music favoured by individuals in the group. Reasons for selections to be provided.

On Thursday, 18th June, Daytimers will gather in the beautiful garden of members Pat and Bill McEwan, to visit, talk about programme themes and possibilities for the fall, eat lunches and share the annual spring treat of strawberry shortcake produced and/or put together by Daytimers.

—Wanda Justice, 604-327-1851
cljlaw@shaw.ca

MUSIC CLUB

The Season's Over

The last meeting of the Unitarian Music Club in this church year will be held on Monday, June 22 at 7:30 in the sanctuary. The evening will consist of a short informal concert with performances by Tara Bonham, Carter Maitland, Leanne Page, Gerard Satamian, Mikiko Shelly, and Jeffery Wilkins. As is usual in June, the meeting is *not* on the last Monday.

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 con-

LIBRARY

More New Books in Our Library

Our thanks to Elisabeth Geller, who donated a new copy of *God: a Biography* by Jack Miles, a literary criticism and interpretation of the Bible.

Other recent acquisitions include:
Climate Wars by Gwynne Dyer.

Tar Sands: Dirty Oil and the Future of a Continent by Andrew Nikiforuk.

Hope in Shadows: Stories and Photographs of Vancouver's Downtown Eastside, edited by Bran Cran and Gillian Jerome, with a forward by Libby Davies.

The Jesus Sayings by Rex Weyler.

Payback: Debt and the Shadow Side of Wealth by Margaret Atwood.

A Fair Country: Telling Truths about Canada by John Ralston Saul.

New fiction titles include:
Cloud Atlas by David Mitchell.

The Reluctant Fundamentalist by Mohsin Hamid.

The Cellist of Serajevo by Steven Galloway.

Next month I hope to bring you more titles to consider for your summer reading.

—Barb Taylor, 604-731-9393
jtaylor@uniserve.com

tribution to refreshments.

Dates for the fall of 2009 are: September 28, October 26, November 23, and December 21. More information: Jeannie Corsi at 604-224-1040 or nichorsi@interchange.ubc.ca David Donaldson at 604-224-6010 or dvdd@telus.net



UCV Centenary Insight: Broader than Unitarianism

Four Weddings and a Funeral! Actually, at UCV, it was sometimes more like 249 weddings and 34 memorials! The 1959 archival record shows Rev. Phillip Hewett performing 14 weddings, 8 memorials and 10 child dedications. By 1969 this had mushroomed to 165 weddings and 38 memorials. Then, in 1980, our highest figures: 283 weddings, 46 memorials and 37 child dedications. Rev. Hewett notes that 1/3 of the services were for Unitarians, 6% of people were affiliated with Unitarianism in some way, and the rest were not affiliated with the church.

This, and the marked increase in wedding requests over those decades, reflects several things: the growing number of couples wanting a 'church' wedding without traditional religious trappings; that UCV encourages couples' involvement in designing their ceremony; and UCV's reputation as a church that welcomes interfaith weddings, and same-sex unions. In 1974 Phillip spearheaded formation of the Canadian Unitarian Council's Lay Chaplaincy programme, which allows Unitarian Churches to hire and train lay church members to perform rites of passage, and arranges their provincial certification to conduct weddings.

Today, our Minister Steven Epperson performs rites of passage for UCV members, while our four Lay Chaplains perform them for everyone else. Lay Chaplains over the years, aside from internes and students, include Bernie Vinge, Stan Wood, Sandy Hill, Shirley Brunke, Eric Smethurst, Rita Van Holen, Lucille Morrill, Alan Dawson, Margaret Roberts, Debra Thorne, Karl Perrin, Ken Wood, Shoshanna Wiley, and today's team – Katherine Roback, Danny Enright, Wayne Ulian and Phyllis Bassett. —Archive Committee

LEGACY ADVISORY**Inauguration of
The Memory Wall**

On Sunday, June 7, after church service, there will be a 15-minute special centennial ceremony in the (Phillip Hewett) west garden adjacent to the sanctuary, to inaugurate the Memorial Wall. The Memorial Wall will have a highlight "Soulcatcher" logo, and memorial plaques will have been installed to commemorate two previously deceased (and loved) members. There will remain in the sanctuary a registry of deceased members for whom a plaque has been mounted, or whose ashes have been spread on the grounds.

The Memorial Advisory Committee will be on hand to answer questions about future plaques, and how to arrange them on behalf of deceased congregants. The minister/chaplains will be on hand to create a celebration for recently deceased members, or to make it part of a memorial service.

—*Rainer Borkenhagen, 604-221-6631*

**Eliot at
Naramata**

Naramata Deans for 2009 Sonya Wachowski and Carla Mandy look forward to leading first time campers and returnees in a week's adventure at Eliot at Naramata '09. Come for the sun, the fun, the music, the fellowship and worship experiences, the wonderful food, and the beautiful Okanagan Lake.

This year's theme speaker promises an uplifting camp experience through the theme "Full-Spectrum Joyfulness!" Learn and practice seven joyfulness themes—become skilled at raising your spirits and mood in almost any circumstances. They are fun to do, easy to remember, playful, and meaningful. We'll use art, movement, discussion, and music to explore these themes and adapt them to our own daily lives and individual needs.

Leaders are Rev. Amanda Aikman, author of a forthcoming book, and Julia McKay, musician and Interplay facilitator.

—*Sonya and Carla,*
Naramata Deans 2009

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE***Bonding***

On May 5, the UCV Centenary Committee and Rev. Phillip Hewett presented Dr. David Suzuki speaking on the environmental issues of the day. Thank you, Patience Towler and Diana Ellis.

One of his themes was the potential for hubris in the urban animal: us. Because we live in a human-built environment with information overload, we become desensitized to the non-human world: nature. We soon forget where food comes from, what it means to be an animal, and how dependent we are on the non-human world, physically and spiritually.

And so he recommended getting out of the built environment, to soak up the revitalizing beauty and conviviality of the unbuilt environment.

This makes sense. Even a day hike to Stawamus Chief or Black Tusk can charge my batteries. But if half of humanity now lives in cities, it's hard to imagine all of us getting away from each other. It seems smarter to follow the Japanese model of "small is beautiful". A garden can be quite small, and still challenge the gardener with wildness.

Speeding to a natural wonder, to check it off one's list, kills it. Put a tourist city on the Niagara, and you have domesticated falls. Ho hum. Check.

Children are good teachers when it comes to nature. We used to stand in the fall leaves during a storm, and watch how running water dams and undams, patiently finding a low spot.

It is our intention that counts, not the destination. Slowing down to see the sacred in the interplay of flower and bee, the beauty in clouds, the brute power in tides and fires; these are ways we bond with our intimate natural surroundings. We are so lucky to live in such a rich and diverse ecosystem, where every altitude, above and below sea level brings a new climate, and a new experience. Why go anywhere else? Fall in love with home. Try gardening without buying much, if you want a challenge.

We bond with each other, and create a community in this place. And if we are bonded to the land, we will treasure it, and leave it to our children, cleaner than we found it.

The Environment Committee has a wrap-up meeting on June 14, 12:30, in the Board Room. All welcome.

—*Karl Perrin, 604-872-7326*
Chair, Enviro Committee

CENTENARY COMMITTEE**Dr. David Suzuki
Speaks at UCV**

Put the 'eco' back into the term 'economy'. By 2048 there will be no commercially viable fish left in the sea; we will each have five pounds of plastics dissolved in our bodies; and where has the unique human ability to use 'foresight' gone? Those were some of many key points made by Dr. David Suzuki in his May 5 Centenary Outreach Lecture: "*The Challenge of the 21st Century: Setting the Real Bottom Line*".

In the Sanctuary filled with early evening's rich light, and the stunning hanging of Gaia on the wall behind him, Dr. Suzuki addressed 300 people with a forceful speech that recounted familiar environmental issues and spun new angles on the role of nature in the economy. "*We have to bring the services of nature into the economic equation,*" he said, "*research shows it would take 35 trillion dollars to do what nature does for nothing—and what the economy produces is worth 18 trillion dollars.*" He spoke of fundamental human needs; social connection, spiritual insight and love, and urged all to look at what we eat, where we live, how we move.

A lively reception and book-signing followed. Thanks to: Revs. Phillip Hewett and Steven Epperson for securing Dr Suzuki's involvement; Velia Laval and her hospitality team; Rob Dainow for the video (now available in UCV's library); Scott Jackson for publicity; Roger Brant for sound; Karl Perrin and Caroline Farley for ushering, and our great office/custodial staff.

—*Diana Ellis, Patience Towler:*
Centenary Committee

SUNDAY LUNCHES

June 7th: Refugee Committee (fund-raising for Farahnaz)

June 14th: Refugee Committee

June 21st: Wed/Fri Covenants Groups

June 28th: TBA

If your group would like to serve a lunch, there are still many dates available over the summer. Please contact Doris Lowe at 604-435-6183.

FOSTERING COMMUNITY**Grads Enter Adulthood and Anticipate Exciting Lives**

Congratulations to the following high school graduates who are planning their futures:

- Keegan Graham, son of Caroline Farley and Fiona Graham and grandson of Duncan Graham; SFU, chemistry
- Casey Stainsby, daughter of Debra Thorne and Erik Stainsby and granddaughter of Joy Coghill Thorne; Theatre school and travel
- Marc Dainow, son of Rob Dainow and Cheryl Amundsen and nephew of Elliott; Music school and travel in Britain
- Owen Marmorek, son of David Marmorek and Betty Bronson; UBC, arts
- Matt Madewan, son of Thora Gislason; Langara, basketball, English and psychology
- Claire McCormick, daughter of Tom and Sue
- Evan Covernton, son of Tom Covernton and Laurie Greenwood; UBC, engineering
- Jessica Fletcher, daughter of Margaret Fletcher and sister of Samantha Taylor; UBC law school

Congratulations also to Karen Brumelle, who welcomed grandson Shelby Edward Sigurdson Brumelle, April 20, in San Francisco.

News from the other end of the age spectrum:

Following complications from a fall, Joyce Griffiths, 87, received loving care at home from daughter-in-law Nan Gregory. Then, on June 1, Joyce moved into Crofton Manor. She'd enjoy hearing from friends.

Irene Bisbee has broken both hips, one in December and one in March, and is understandably having a rough time. She, too, would enjoy hearing from friends.

Ruth Shaw has been sidelined due to illness. She misses her regular coffee stints and we miss her, too. Here's wishing you a speedy recovery, Ruth!

Harold Douglas Brown has been ailing with the flu, which we hope is gone by now. On the positive side, Harold was inducted into the BC Entertainment Hall of Fame on April 19.

A moving memorial service was held at UCV on May 1, to celebrate the life of Mary B. McDonald. In addition to the information on Mary's life mentioned in the April Bulletin, she served on the board of the BC Civil Liberties Association for 20 years. In her memory, the BCCLA has established an essay contest for young people. For further information, contact their office at 604-687-2919 or info@bccla.org.

Kudos go to Caede Pungente, Leslie Hill, Steven Epperson, Katherine Roback, Duncan Graham, Samantha

—FORUM—

June 7: The UUA Ethical Eating Guide and you.

With the start of June, Forum formally finishes for the season. I'd like to thank Karl Perrin, Leslie Kemp, David Steele, Mary Bennett, Louise Bunn, Corina Bye, Elisabeth Geller and any others involved in Forum this year, for your cooperation and good programming.

—Randall MacKinnon, *Outgoing Coordinator*

Pat Duffy Hutcheon Presents Her Ultimate Work

My latest (and last) book has just been published by Aurora Humanist Books, Canadian Humanist Publications, in Ottawa, my autobiography: *Lonely Trail: The Life Journey of a Freethinker*.

Unitarianism comes up often in the book. I first encountered it over 45 years ago, when I was at the University of Calgary, and it shows how it has been an important factor in my life ever since.

Every chapter is a short story that could stand alone. There are 22 of these: the first four being "*The Terror of True Belief*", "*A School Called Lonely Trail*", "*And the Ripples Spread*" and "*A Rock on the Windswept Prairie*"; with the last four called, "*Early Retirement*", "*The Golden Age*", "*Fallen Leaves*" and "*Sowing Seeds*". As some readers have told me, "It's an easy read!"

You can order the book from John and Barbara Taylor, at their Peoples' Co-op Bookstore.

—Pat Duffy Hutcheon

Women's Retreat on the Island

The 12th Vancouver Island UU Women's Retreat will be held at the Bethlehem Retreat Centre in Nanaimo, BC on the weekend of September 18-20.

The cost for the weekend is \$200 if registration is before August 10th or \$215 after this date. Space is limited. Various workshops will be led by participants throughout the weekend along with crafts, labyrinth walks and hiking around the lake.

For further information or a registration form, please email Sarah Pickstone, Registrar, at spickstone@telus.net.

Taylor and Peter Henderson for helping to organize the service. Kudos also to the Chalice Choir and the other choirs who participated in the sell-out fundraising evening honouring Pete Seeger's 90th birthday.

Last but not least, Ron and Jan Gibson, longtime USC supporters, enjoyed a two week trip to Cuba in February, including a visit to a USC agricultural project near Havana, featuring seed diversity, and definitely a highlight of their trip. USC Canada asked Ron to write up an article on it, which is now on the USC web page.

As we welcome summer, please share your diverse highlights and help Foster Community!

—Ann Foster, 604-736-2117
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Gerry Hayle Retires as *Bulletin* Editor

After more than 16 years as editor of *The Bulletin*, Gerry Hayle is putting away her red pencil. Gerry has done this huge job almost single-handedly. She's done it with good grace and efficiency, producing a valuable and treasured publication that helps to tie together the threads of community at the Unitarian Church of Vancouver (UCV).



Editing *The Bulletin* is only one of the many contributions Gerry makes to the life the church. She is an active member of the Social Justice Committee, and has represented them on two trips to El Salvador. She is on the Communications Committee and has served as chair of the Sound Committee, and acts as sound tech for many events. Gerry sings with the Chalice Choir, keeps their enrollment data, and often designs posters and programmes for choir concerts, as well as for other groups, such as the library and thrift sale. For several years, she worked with the Vancouver Food Bank as roving depot supervisor and doing computer data entry.

Far from slowing down, retirement from editing *The Bulletin* will probably free Gerry up to explore new ways to serve the UCV community she loves so much.



The year continues with a variety of interesting and lively events at UCV. Please refer to the Church's website www.vancouver.unitarians.ca

for full details of these events, plus others that may have been scheduled since *The Bulletin* deadline.

Date & Time	Event	Location
Tues. June 2, 7-9pm	ARE: Visions of the Day to Come with Harold Rosen	Budny
Thurs. June 4, 11am-2 pm	Daytimers: From Aging to Sage-ing/Music with Purpose	Fireside Room
Fri. June 5	There are no First Friday meetings in June	
Sat. June 6, 9am-5pm	Spirit Play Training with Caroline Farley	Fireside Room
Sun. June 7, 10am-12pm	Green Market (Enviro Committee)	Alcove
Sun. June 7, 12:30-2pm	FORUM: Ethical Eating Guide	Fireside Room
Sun. June 7, 12:30-2pm	Book Club: <i>The Cellist of Sarajevo</i>	Budny
Mon. June 8, 7-9pm	Sacred Circle Dancing	Fireside Room
Wed. June 10, 7-9:30pm	Pagan Committee	Fireside Room
Fri. June 12, 7-10pm	Second Friday Discovery	Fireside Room
Sun. June 14, 12:30-3:30pm	UCV EGM	Hewett Hall
Sun. June 14, 12:30-1:30pm	Arts Committee	Castellio
Mon. June 15, 7-9pm	Sacred Circle Dancing	Fireside Room
Wed. June 17, 5:30-9pm	Community Spaghetti Dinner	Hewett Hall
Thurs. June 18, 11:30am-2pm	Daytimers: Annual Picnic and Strawberry Shortcake Extravaganza	Fireside Room
Sun. June 21, 10am-12pm	Green Market (Enviro Committee)	Alcove
Mon. June 22, 6:30-10pm	UCV Music Club	Sanctuary