



The Edmonton Unitarian

Unitarian Church of Edmonton

10804 119 Street NW, Edmonton, AB T5H 3P2

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Volume 49 Number 7 Summer 2008

Services for the Summer

Services Begin at 10:30 a.m.

Our Vision
The Unitarian
Church of
Edmonton— a liberal
religious, multi-
generational
congregation. We
celebrate a rich
mosaic of free-
thinking, spiritually-
questing individuals
joined in common
support and action.
We welcome
diversity, pursue the
common good, and
work for justice. We
believe in the
compassion of the
individual heart, the
warmth of community,
and the search for
meaning in our lives.

June 29, 2008 “The Geopolitics of Kosova” **Jim Logan**

The newly independent Republic of Kosova was born on February 17, 2008. It is the biggest little nation in the world, having an area of little more than 100,000 square kilometres, about the size of Banff National Park. During the post World War II era it was part of the now defunct Yugoslavia. We shall discuss the cultural, economic and historical aspects of this beautiful part of the Balkans which will have been recognized by the European Union on June 15, 2008. The speaker recently spent 2 weeks there.

July 6, 2008 “Let the Mystery Be: Meditation and Music from ‘The Folks’” **Michelle Van Der Molen**

Folk music (music by and for “folks”) has a special place in many world cultures. We’re going to explore some history of folk music, meditate to some of the good stuff, maybe sing a bit....and LISTEN! Come and enjoy a fun and contemplative service based around the Pater-VanDerMolen family music collection and learn which folk singer “Let the Mystery Be” through some difficult moments in our lives.

July 13, 2008 “What is a Labyrinth and Why People Walk Them” **Bonnie Kyle**

A service explaining what the labyrinth is and how it is relevant to our lives. Bonnie Kyle will open the labyrinth for walkers following the service, until 2:00.

July 20, 2008 “Relationships That Sustain Us” **Susan Ruttan**

A celebration of the many kinds of relationships that sustain us.

July 27, 2008 “Creative Discovery” **Beth Jenkins and Ad Hoc Theatre**

The cast and crew of Ad Hoc Theatre talk about the ways their roles--a woman alone who overhears too much, an adopted daughter confronting her mother about her past, a waitress facing things she doesn’t want to face--in the company’s upcoming Fringe production have given meaning to their personal journeys and insight into their “real life” relationships.

August 3, 2008

John Pater

“Divorcing Our Cars for Health Reasons”

An exploration of the health benefits of walking, biking and busing to our daily destinations. John Pater will present information being used by his team at Capital Health's Public Health Division to advocate for active forms of transportation.

August 10, 2008

“Shifting Gears—Change and Making Change”

Docia Lysne

Every time I have moved I have found new challenges for favourable new beginnings.

August 17, 2008

“Talking About Spirit and Soul—Is There a Difference?”

Pam Willerton

Is there a difference between these two terms? We tend to use them interchangeably, and some believe they describe two separate entities. I will discuss these beliefs and talk about my experience of the two.

August 24, 2008

Karen Stevenson

“Sustaining Wonder: Deepening Connection and Commitment to the Environment”

How do we see ourselves fitting into the ‘interconnected web of existence’? Sustaining Wonder is an exploration into some of the ways we can deepen our connection to our natural world and bring an awareness of eco-justice into our actions.

August 31, 2008

Michael Zahorodny-Burke

“Determinism, A Philosophic Perspective on Free Will”

My sermon will centre around the idea of determinism, a philosophical perspective on free will which is supported by modern science. Ironically, considering people from a deterministic perspective can lead to a less judgmental and more compassionate viewpoint on our fellow human beings.

President’s Message

Here we are at the end of another church year. Many thanks to everyone who helped out during the year and made things run smoothly or just plain run!

In the spirit of fostering community between the churches, The Red Deer congregation will be hosting an intercity picnic this summer to allow Calgary, Edmonton and Red Deer Unitarians to get to know each other. There is no official date as of yet, but if you are interested let Pam in the office know and when we have the date we’ll give you a call.

Well, it’s time to go weed the garden...see you in September!

Mike Keast

History Project

The committee planning the Ruth Patrick History Project had its first meeting on June 10, so we're finally underway. Our goal is to record the stories of our Unitarian Church of Edmonton founders and share those stories with the congregation. Over the summer we'll be drafting a preliminary list of "founders". Early in the fall we'll invite UCE members to a brainstorming session after church to talk about how to proceed. We are: Louise Charach, Christine Mowat and Susan Ruttan. If you have suggestions re the project, contact Louise at lcharach@yahoo.com or 451-0623.

Chorealis Highnotes

Another year of great music and camaraderie! We all love to come and sing because we have such enthusiastic, joyful and professional leadership in our outstanding co-directors Karen Mills and Gordon Ritchie! Did you know that Gordon presented a workshop at the Canadian Unitarian CUC in Ottawa called “U Sing Me” using his own compositions? It was very successful with over 55

participants. Music is thriving in the CUC! He also gave a gift of the soprano descant that he composed for "Spirit of Life" to the choir singing at the Sunday morning service and told the singers that they were welcome to take that back to their choirs across the country. Gordon's fame as a talented composer is going from coast to coast!

We invite you all to come to two summer barbecues this year. The first one is at the home of Susan Ruttan on Thursday, July 24th. She lives in the Highlands at 11129-51 Street and her phone number is 477-3663. Directions: Head east on 111th Avenue to 51st Street, turn right (toward the river) and her house is half-way down the block. There will be a sign. She has a big garden, and if the weather is bad there is enough room inside.

The August barbecue is on Thursday, August 21st at the home of Marilyn Gaa in Windsor Park. Her address is 9318 Edinboro Road and phone is 432-7660.

Both events start at 6:00 pm, and we ask that you bring an appetizer, a salad or a dessert to share, and something to barbecue. (And a lawn chair if you have one.) Also some wine, beer or whatever you drink on a beautiful summer evening.

Our first rehearsal in the fall is Thursday, September 4th at 7:30 pm here at the church. New members are always welcome. No singing experience necessary. *Jan McMillan*

FORSCH, Victoria, August 9, 1933 - May 22, 2008

It is with great sadness that the family of Victoria Forsch announces her sudden passing at the age of 74 years. She resided in Victoria but at the time of her passing was staying in the Dominican Republic.

Victoria was a member of Capital UU Congregation (its president in 2003), and was a charter member of Westwood Unitarian Congregation in Edmonton.

Victoria was born and raised in Wandering River, Alberta, in a tight-knit Ukrainian homestead. Among other occupations she was a mother of two and a nurse in Lac La Biche and Edmonton before moving to Vancouver Island.

Left to celebrate her memory are her children, Kim Forsch and Cyndie Cyr, grandchildren Keeley (Dean), Tiffany, Madison (Anthony), Kirsten (Lee), Taryn, and great grandson Torretto. She is survived by five siblings and numerous nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her father, mother and a sister.

Victoria will also be remembered fondly by her many friends as someone who lived life fully and thrived on helping others. Victoria worked as a caregiver and enjoyed many hobbies including sewing, painting, singing and music. She was a lifelong learner, constantly changing with the world around her. We will not mourn her passing, but will join in a celebration of her life, to be led by Unitarian lay chaplain Peter Scales at 5 p.m. on Sunday, June 15, 2008, at the James Bay New Horizons, 234 Menzies Street, Victoria. In lieu of flowers, donations may be given to WIN (Women In Need) 812 Cormorant Street, Victoria, B.C. V8W 1R1

Women's Gathering Lumsden Trip

Rides are still needed for the Women's Gathering July 4-6 in Lumsden Saskatchewan. If you are going and would consider a passenger or two, call Ruth Patrick at 436-3108.

Two women, active at 77 and 86, would like a ride to the Gathering. We would like to have an overnight hotel stay at the half way mark. Please call Brenda, morning or evening at 488-5659.

Thank You

The Keast family would like to thank everyone for their generous financial and emotional support during this past month. With your help, we raised a total of \$950.00 to send to our niece Kailie in Thunder Bay for her medical expenses. She is doing very well; she recently underwent surgery on her leg and all of the osteosarcoma was successfully removed. (The lungs are next!) Your warm thoughts and kind words have been a tremendous help. Congratulations also to Jolien Pauw, winner of the \$100 gift card draw, and many thanks again to all who participated.

In My Mother's Garden **Friday, August 29, 2008 from 2 - 9 p.m.**

Photographic exhibition and sale by emerging artist Jaime Lauren Kyle. "In My Mother's Garden" is an exhibit of images taken over the spring and summer of 2007. Using close-up filters on a digital SLR camera, Jaime hones her creativity and photographic practice to capture one of the last seasons of her mother's garden. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to Child Haven.

At Last We Clean up

Our Spring Clean-Up got "snowed" out but at last the weather is looking a little better so bring your broom, gloves, weed tools, etc. and let's get our church property looking a little tidier on FRIDAY JULY 4 AND SATURDAY JULY 5. We hope that many hands will mean that we can do the necessary work between 10 and noon each day (though anyone is welcome to stay on to work in the afternoon) Dorothy would appreciate knowing who is coming (dmkeeler@shaw.ca or 458-1250) so she can get the right amount of coffee on to brew and donuts to go with it.

Dorothy Keeler

Unitarians in the Pride Parade, June 2008



Help Wanted

The tellers are looking for another volunteer to join their merry money-counting band. If you've got an hour to spare after church some Sundays to count donations from the collection plate, how about being a teller? Training is provided, and teller Lynn Wolff says "it's fun!" Contact Edwina Madill, the head teller, at gmadill@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca, or call 462-2089.

Meet Life Courageously

The First Unitarian Congregation of Toronto, in partnership with World Accord, invites you to help build schools in the mountains of Honduras or a home in Chichoy, a Guatemalan community devastated by Hurricane Stan. These are hands-on opportunities to make a difference in the lives of subsistence farmers and their families. Please join a two-week trip: beginning November 1, 2008, February 7 or March 7, 2009. Construction and Spanish language skills are not required but would be welcomed. For more information contact Richard Kirsh (416-767-5837 or richardkirsh@sympatico.ca) or see our poster on your congregation's bulletin board.

Help Needed

iHuman Youth Society is seeing 20 to 30 youth per day at the studio plus the many more they are helping with our outreach work. iHuman is working on exciting new projects including one which specifically targets young mothers and mothers to be and another which will try to create a more effective treatment and rehabilitation model for youth associated with gangs. To fund this, iHuman Youth Society has been allocated a casino on July 29 and 30. It is in need of volunteers to assist. If you are able to help, please phone Lorris Williams at 964-9646

Kidstuff

Michelle Van Der Molen, DRE

There will be no Children's Church or staffed Nursery for July and August. Nursery and Children's Church and Youth Group will begin again on September 7, 2007 with an Intergenerational Service in the Sanctuary. Nursery children (aged newborn to 4); Sunday morning classes (aged 4-11) and Youth Group (aged 11+) are invited to register for the fall programming. Older Youth and Adult volunteers are also needed for lots of fun jobs. Please contact Michelle Van Der Molen, DRE at 454-5816 or dre@uce.ca if you have any questions or concerns.

Donations are Nice!

If you are spring- or summer- cleaning, the Religious Education program would be happy to accept the following items: glitter, glues of all types, ribbons, stickers, craft paints, bristol boards, sequins, buttons, beads, tape, balloons. Also paper...specifically fingerpaint sheets, large paper sheets, card stock and construction paper. We have a budget to pay for these things, but anything you're not using anymore will be happily used at UCE (and will make Michelle's Dutch heart very happy!)

The Great Review

The great library review continues...there are still many books that need to be read and summarized on cards for our library. If you have time and interest over the summer, please let Michelle know! Thanks to those who have already put time and energy into this ongoing project.

Avgen Gift Card Fundraising

Thanks to all those who have participated in this ongoing fundraiser for U.C.E. You've seen the notice board and the order forms....some of you now have collections of gift cards and certificates to spend or pass on....but did you know... This is a YEAR-ROUND opportunity for U.C.E. – not just for the holidays. Even a small order every month can add up for money for the church. If you get into the habit of ordering for stores you are at regularly (like gas stations, or department stores, or grocery stores), we can see this grow! If you would like ideas for making this work for you, please talk to Barb Forbes or Michelle Van Der Molen. Also, keep turning in your order forms with your cheques to Barb or Michelle. Barbara Forbes (439-4553) continues to ably administer the program, with support from Marjay Russell.

Just a Reminder

If you have a fund-raising idea for the church, please make sure to run it past the Ways and Means Committee to make sure that it fits the schedule and that is appropriate and supported! Please contact Michelle Van Der Molen, Acting chairperson at 477-7576 or mavdmolen@shaw.ca with your ideas.

A Question

"Did you exist before you were born?"

Answer Yes or No

There will be a possible answer in the September newsletter.

Brother James

"If the ideals of worldwide justice and equity are ever to be realized, if our planet and its people are ever to be rescued from shortsightedness and greed, it will only be through the workings of a vibrant international civil society." *William F. Schulz, Senior Fellow, Center for American Progress, former Executive Director, Amnesty International USA and former President of the U.S. Unitarian- Universalist Association*

UCE Walking Friday Mornings

This group is open to everyone who likes to walk (and talk) and eat! Join us and bring your spouse and friends.

SCHEDULE - June 27- Aug 1 2008

(Entertainment Books are often useful for the Lunch component of these walks)

Leaders are assigned arbitrarily so exchanges are expected and possible.

1. We always meet at the church at 9:30 on Friday mornings and car pool from there to the walk of the day. (A loonie for in town and a twonie for out of town to the driver is suggested.) If you prefer to meet us at the starting point of the walk please let the leader (or Dorothy or Helen or UCE office) know.
2. We try to maintain an email list to update you on changes. If you wish to be added to that list please contact Helen Ready or Dorothy Keeler. Many of us carry cellphones.
3. Sometimes we change our routes or leaders to accommodate the weather or other activities. Check the Order of Service each week. We will try to advise those on our email list in advance but sometimes you will not get that news until you arrive at the church at 9:30.
4. Many, but not all walks, finish with lunch at a restaurant before returning to the church.
5. Many of our walks are dog friendly. If you want more information please contact the leader for the day.
6. If you have a favourite trail please let us know so we can incorporate it into our schedule.
7. Call one of us if you need more information about a route or this program.
8. During the nicer weather we try to go further afield. These walks take more time and are underlined in the program.

Friday June 27 - Capilano Park, across the bridge and back to Gold Bar Park

leader - Sheila Parr

Friday July 4 - Millet (an out of town trip so we'll need more time)

- leader - Dorothy Keeler
- Friday July 11 - Devonian Gardens** (there is an entry fee and bring your lunch or buy it there)
- leader - Audrey Brooks and Lise Cloutier
- Friday July 18 - Riverside Golf Course edge**
- leader - Sara McEwan
- Friday July 25 - Elk Island** (bring a lunch and we'll picnic at Astotin Lake)
- leader - Lise Cloutier
- Friday Aug 1 - Muttart to Emily Murphy Park**
- leader - Marjay Russell *Dorothy Keeler (458 1250) and Helen Ready (454 8054)*

UCE is a welcoming congregation, which means our community is open to all, without regard to sexual orientation, race, gender, age, ability, or income. It's nice to have you with us.

**THE EDMONTON UNITARIAN PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE
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Deadline for the September newsletter is August 22, 2008

People Finder

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Religious Education Director: Michelle Van Der Molen dre@uce.ca	454-5816
Canvass: Andrew Mills	987-2174
Campus Ministry: Rev. Audrey Brooks audbrook@telusplanet.net	489-8842
Chorealis: Karen Mills	432-0826
Gordon Ritchie	420-9018
Church Office: Pam Willerton	
chadmin@uce.ca	454-8073
Donations Secretary: Marge Roche	464-3348
Head Teller: Edwina Madill	462-2089
Lay Chaplaincy:	call office 454-8073
Denise Wenzel and Pam Willerton	
Ministerial Relations: Stefan Sicking	434-9201
Pastoral Care:	vacant
Property Management: Bernie Keeler btkeeler@shaw.ca	458-1250
Social Justice Committee: Sylvia Krogh skrogh@shaw.ca	454-6216
Vision: Gilbert Bouchard	439-8149
Worship Committee: John Pater	477-7576