

Searching ✨ Learning ✨ Connecting ✨ Serving

Unitarian Church of Edmonton

uce.ca



The Edmonton Unitarian: November 2019, Vol 60.10



Theme: Finding Each Other

November 3

Here Together

Chorealis

“We are here together in this holy moment, and we’re grateful for the winding road that brought us to this place.” Those are the words of the prelude, and the theme for this service. We’ll look at the winding road that brought UCE to the place it’s at now, and the ways we’ve found each other along the journey.

*Please remember the time change this weekend.

November 10

Find Yourself First

Rev. Brian J. Kiely

Before we can think a lot about finding each other, we have to find ourselves. To be truly present with the people we love, we need to know where we stand, what our limits are and where we are prepared to extend ourselves. Partly that means acknowledging history, so we will note Remembrance Day as well.

November 17

Connection in a Social Media World

Rev. Brian J. Kiely

A colleague told me that some of her young congregants prefer to text (or use some other message format) and dislike phone calls. The young person attributed it to ‘social anxiety’ around direct communication. How do we find each other in this new world?

November 24

Risk

Rev. Brian J. Kiely

One of the first questions a financial planner will ask is how much risk you are willing to accept when it comes to investing your money. It’s kind of the same with human relationships. There is always a risk, and hopefully a reward. How to we decide how much risk is okay?

*Coffee with the board follows the service

November’s Services on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/events/408048303420969/>

Ministerial Musings

The Western Fall Gathering was about as complete a success as it could have been. We had great attendance and along with our Westwood friends offered a weekend welcome that was fulsome and capable. There were very few hitches along the way and events flowed smoothly one into the other. As a veteran of 21 of these, I can say that is a rare statement!

Special kudos has to go to Michelle Van Der Molen who planned and ran the food for 70 some people. Though she had lots of helpers at times, anyone who hung around the kitchen knows that without her unflappable leadership, planning and genial personality, things in the food area would have gone very differently.



I also want to name the UCE folks on the planning teams. Karen Bilida handled media and space management beautifully and made Scott Harrison do all the hard work. Will Adair and Maria Jenkins did great work supporting the Youth Con and organizing volunteers. Karen Mills gathered the team for a great music workshop and represented us well at the opening ceremonies. Declan Kiely did great work on communications for the Youth Con and served as unofficial host welcoming the incoming young people.

And we also saw one of the things I absolutely love the most about this congregation: when we needed to set up or take down rooms for the banquet, the Sunday service, the opening ceremonies or the workshops there were many hands suddenly appearing to manage tables, move chairs, decorate, serve and clean up afterwards. **It's something we do so naturally around here that the planners didn't worry (much) about that aspect.** You did what we expected you would do almost unasked and for that we are grateful.



Finally, thanks to those of you who specially turned out to watch my colleagues 'BROast" me at the Saturday dinner. I hope you enjoyed it as much as I did.

See you in church
Brian

Board Update

Your UCE Board met on October 2, 2019. Brandie Moller-Reid introduced us to a program called Base Camp which we will try out for the next while for board communication and document storage. Mike Keast provided an extensive report on the activities of the Rental Committee and Building and Grounds Committee - we can be confident that there are competent and dedicated people working away in the background on our behalf. Your Treasurer, Doug Eastwell, has been grinding away on the changeover to a new bookkeeper and the process is very nearly complete.

There will be a "Coffee with the Board" on November 24 after the Sunday Service. The next board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 6, 2019 at 7:15. If you wish to speak on a particular topic during any board meeting, kindly contact President Karen Mills one week prior to the meeting.

Religion on Tap



Let's raise a glass to the fallen warriors on November 12. Religion on Tap will convene as usual at the Metro, 10250 - 106 Street at 7 p.m. These are informal gatherings where we socialize for a while and have a religiously themed discussion that runs from 5 minutes to an hour depending on interest. Brian Kiely leads and all are welcome.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/2520621381348890/>

UCE Pagan Chalice Circle

Come join the UCE Pagan Chalice Circle on Friday, November 1 at 7pm as we celebrate Samhain with a rite in honour of our ancestors. Everyone is welcome! Please bring a photo or memento of your beloved dead to place on the altar. Doors open at 6:30, and the ritual will begin promptly at 7pm.



Membership

We welcome you to a church that is a community of seekers, dreamers and doers.

There is no creedal test and no obligatory ceremony connected with becoming a member. All members, however, are expected to take an interest in their church and to contribute as they are able, both financially and through service (please see volunteer opportunities on the church credenza and in the newsletters).

Please visit our [Donations & Planned Giving page](#) for more information on financial donations. You can find Membership forms on the [website](#) or at the membership desk.



News from the Social Justice Working Group

In October, your social justice working group presented a service about Orange Shirt Day, which was very informative and well received. We are now conducting a Blanket Drive to collect unused blankets, to be distributed among our friends in the homeless camp by Hope Mission. There will be a box in the lobby by the washroom for donated blankets until the end of November.

On Sunday November 17 following the service, we will be showing a film about Myalgic Encephalitis, a serious medical condition which affects several of our members and friends. Everyone is welcome to join us. The Youth will have a concession stand to raise money for attending CanUuddle in spring 2020.

We are continuing to distribute food bank hampers and to attend the SMILE Sidewalk Parties. Donations to both efforts are greatly appreciated.

The next meeting of the Social Justice group will take place on Sunday November 10 following the service. The SJC is holding a Blanket Drive to collect warm blankets for our homeless neighbours who are sleeping rough. Blankets can be dropped in the collection bin in the church lobby until the end of November, and will be distributed directly to homeless folks at the Sunday Night Sidewalk Parties.

Sharing Our Abundance

The Unitarian Church of Edmonton (UCE) donates half of the loose cash collected to a different charity. For the month of November we will be donating to the CBC TURKEY DRIVE – which raises cash and collecting donations for Edmonton’s Food Bank and ensures people in need can enjoy a festive meal.



UCE Walking Group Schedule



November 1	Laurier Park, lunch at Zoo
November 8	Greenland Garden Centre
November 15	Grant Notley Park to Bridge, lunch at Arno's.
November 22	Patricia Ravine, lunch at Flamingo
November 29	Meet at Planet Organic
December 6	Walkers' Christmas Lunch at Victoria Plaza
December 13	Christmas Bureau Carol Singalong at Winspear (free event)

Walkers carpool from church, leaving at 10:00 am, or meet at the walk site at 10:20 am. There are often changes to the schedule so if you are not on the email list please call Sheila, 780-454-7581 the day before to confirm the walk.

Hello Everyone,

WRFG Youth Con was a success and was really on point for our focus this year in class. This year will be a year of self-reflection and study with pertaining the Unitarian church, and its principles, sources, history and sense of community. We will also be planning monthly family and youth events to help work on making our community stronger.



Important Religious Exploration Dates for November

- November 3rd – Third Principle – part 1
- November 10th – Third Principle – **part 2, Also “Time with an Elder”** – Andrew Mills on the importance of Remembrance Day , Bake Sale during coffee before and after service
- November 17th – Forth Principle – part 1
- November 17th - **Concession stand for the Social Justice’s** Film Screening (CanUUdle Fundraising)
- November 17th – Youth Activity – Movie @ UCE, 1-3pm
- November 24th – Forth Principle – part 2
- November 24th – Family Activity – Tobogganing @ Emily Murphy Park, 1-3pm – Weather permitting. Please bring your Toboggans, sleds, and crazy carpets for an afternoon of fun.

Themes

- For the first part of the year, all classes will focus on the seven principles.
- The second all classes will focus on sources and world religions.
- The third all classes will focus on community and the interconnected web of all things.
- Each of these topics will have elements of past, present, and future.

WRFG Youth Con and plans for CanUUdle (the National Youth Con):

- The con was a great success the youth had a great time with lots of really good moments of conversation. Being there as an advisor really gave me a glimpse into the how important these events are for our youth.
- **This experience also made me understand why peoples really don’t talk about what happens at Con.** There is a heavy focus on creating safe space it is hard to explain without the fear of compromising that trust. This is the last thing any of us want to do.
- The youth had such a great time that those that are able really want to CanUUdle in May and will be held in Halifax. We currently have 10 youth registered that would be eligible to participate.
- Because of the expense of travel there, I have contacted WestJet about a possible group flight rate the quote they have set back saves about 30% of the cost.
- I have also charged the youth with coming up with some fundraising ideas to help make so that cost will not be a barrier in going. Some of the early suggestions have been a ticketed dinner prepared and served by the youth, bake sales during coffee hour, and concessions stands at all UCE events. If you have any suggestions please let us know.
- Thank you in advance of any support you can give.

RE Sunday Volunteer and Snack Sign up - <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0c4da9ab2ca4f58-ucereprogram>

Will Adair, DRE
ucekids@uce.ca

🌹 Heart to Heart 🌹

- 🌹 We mark the death of our beloved near centenarian Marion De Shield, who has lit up our congregation for many years with her outgoing and enthusiastic personality. Sending best regards and love to all of her family.
- 🌹 **Jolien Pauw's** father died, she has been staying in Vancouver to be with her mother and family. We know how close your family is, Jolien, and know that saying goodbye to this good man is very difficult. We keep you all in our thoughts and hearts.
- 🌹 Linus, Hunter Slevin's beloved companion dog, Linus, died at the age of 9. He was a good dog and is missed.
- 🌹 Thank you to Gertrud Janke, Marge Roche and Ali Hammington for sharing Thanksgiving with Audrey, Joel and Luther this year. **Audrey's large family was not able to be with her due to her eldest son's illness.** He is well on his way to recovery, but is still in the Red Deer hospital, with family still on hospital duty.
- 🌹 UCE is honoured to be one of the sponsors of the Dragging Youth Series. On October 12, an event was held to remember Montreal's version of the Stonewall raids against the LGBTQ+ community. Guest speakers were Michael Phair, Murray Billett, Harry Schnitzel, and Ron Beyers, who shared information and a discussion of **Canada's history with LBGTQ2S+ persons.** UCE youth and adults are enthusiastic supporters and participants of the Dragging Youth Series. Please **get your tickets for November's special dinner.**
- 🌹 The Western Region Fall Gathering of 2019 was held at UCE on the weekend of October 18 – 20. No event of this size can be held without the participation of many volunteers. This gathering was no exception. Michelle Van Der Molen was powerhouse planner and chef in the kitchen, who was all over creating meals and healthy snacks, as well as making sure everything went smoothly. Volunteers turned up and pitched in at all hours, with amazing energy and dedication in all areas including scheduling; youth programs; registration and networking events.
- 🌹 The Social Justice working group is holding a blanket drive to serve the needs of homeless people who face a cold winter in Edmonton. There is a blanket box in the foyer where clean used blankets or sleeping bags can be deposited.
- If you are planning to downsize your house and have sofas, beds, drawers or other useful items to pass on, contact Audrey Brooks, who knows someone who could use help in setting up an apartment.
- "Our mission is love, our race is humanity and our faith is in each other."** Rev. Audrey Brooks



Remember that if you are experiencing loss, or would just like to chat about something, Email audbrook@telusplanet.net, or phone 780-489-8842 and ask for Chaplain Audrey

The Unitarian Church of Edmonton (UCE) is happy to be one of the sponsors of the Dragging Youth Series, an all ages drag show held at the church once a month.

Dee Luvs' Crowns for Kids Annual Dinner & Show

Saturday November 16

Dinner and show is \$25 (Dinner is full Festive Ham Dinner)

Get tickets through EventBrite or from Karen Bilida

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/crowns-for-kids-tickets-75222034129?aff=eand&fbclid=IwAR2O34dz-ID2ypTOHLanWF1cujSttbC5LW4pNP1V56kjc8e5kEcS2suGJ8E>

Show alone \$5

All proceeds going towards "Ronald McDonald House & Kids Kottage"

Dinner 5:30PM Showtime: 6:30PM

Cash Bar and Snack table and a silent auction

<https://www.facebook.com/events/687131821802953/>



Have You Seen the Food Bank Bin in the Church Lobby?



We are looking at doing a Food Bank decoupage project. Can you please save the labels from your canned foods for us to use? You can leave the labels in the food bank bin. Thank you!

All Non-perishable items are welcome but this month we are focusing on:

- Empty Clean Egg Cartons
- Soaps (hand, dish, laundry)
- Toiletries/Hygiene Products (deodorant, shampoos, conditioner, razors, menstrual hygiene products)



Food Bank Distribution Signup Sheet

Volunteer shift is Wednesday evening 5:30 – 7:30 pm.

Please come help, there will be somebody here that can show you what to do.

	Key Holder	Person #2	Person #3	Person #4
November 6	Marge Roche	Maureen	Kim Pizey	
November 13	Scott Harrison	Maureen		
November 20	Scott Harrison	Maureen		
November 27	Marge Roche			

Writing Group Announcement



Interested in Writing? Is your writing Muse struggling to get out? Are you searching for your voice?

If you answered Yes to any of these, you may want to explore join the new UCE writing group. Inspired by this summer's poetry service by Audrey & Corrinne, I thought it might be interesting to unleash the creative Muse using the written word.

Since it is just being formed, there is no structure currently planned – The participants will plot its direction. The writing may be in any genre or format – poetry, personal reflections, memoirs, plays or just flat-out imaginative fiction.

The initial kick-off meeting will be in Classroom #1 on Sunday, November 10 at 2:00PM.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me (Doug Eastwell) at Cell: (780) 405-1221 or e-mail: <mailto:eastwell@telus.net>.

Where We Are From

Muskeg and mushrooms
A privileged environment of love

Drilling rigs in a small arctic center
Tree lined boulevards

Cold cold snow and toes turned blue
Music, music, music

Lilac and forsythia bushes outlining the perimeter
Firecrackers on a May weekend

Crash of pucks against the boards at the rink
Sunday picnics and wiener roasts

Horse drawn milk wagons
Fried potatoes and turnips crisped on the wood stove

Click of liquor bottles hidden beneath the kitchen sink
Chocolate chip cookies and cousins

Sweet smell of new-mown grass
Bold faced lies told by blackbirds as they fly

Saskatoon bushes that bend without breaking
Fried mushrooms in fried bread
We are from subatomic particles to the end of the universe

(A collective poem written by participants at August 18 "Poetry in Motion" Service)

Recordings of UCE Services for September & October 2019



In September, UCE started podcasting the audio of Sunday services. Anyone using a podcast app can subscribe to the channel and receive new episodes as soon as they are published. To subscribe, open your app and search for *Unitarian Church of Edmonton* or for *UCE*.

Once subscribed, you have the option of downloading the service to your phone, tablet, or computer so you can listen without an internet connection.

You can also listen to the services directly on the SoundCloud host via links such as the following. They link to all September services and to the October services published prior to the Newsletter deadline.

September	October
<p><i>Sept 1 "Finding Our Ground" Rev. Brian J. Kiely</i> https://bit.ly/33NSHAJ</p> <p><i>Sept 8 "On Unitarian Ground" Rev. Brian J. Kiely</i> https://bit.ly/2qvPOpT</p> <p><i>Sept 15 "On This Rock" Rev. Brian J. Kiely</i> https://bit.ly/33Tgvn4</p> <p><i>Sept 22 "Yin and Yang" Rev. Brian J. Kiely</i> https://bit.ly/35UBFCO</p> <p><i>Sept 29 "Walking with Our First Nations Families"</i> <i>Rev. Audrey Brooks & Eryn Straube</i> https://bit.ly/2JbxA3D</p>	<p><i>Oct 6 "The Journey of a Thousand Miles" Chorealis</i> https://bit.ly/2p4N7vd</p> <p><i>Oct 13 "For All That Is Our Life" Rev. Brian J. Kiely</i> https://bit.ly/33ZL3nd</p> <p><i>Oct 20 "Towards a Thriving Future" Rev. Brian J. Kiely & Western Canadian Ministers (Western Regional Fall Gathering)</i> https://bit.ly/31CZV97</p>

Recordings of Other UCE Services

The home link of the SoundCloud channel is <https://soundcloud.com/user-189401827/>.

For services for church years 2018-2019 and previous, this link will take you to the YouTube playlists. Each playlist covers a church year.

<https://www.youtube.com/user/EdmUnitarian/playlists?view=1&sort=dd&flow=grid>

Sunday Service Volunteer Schedule

	Coffee	Greeting	Ushering	Piano	Sound Tech
November 3	John Turvey	Pauline Atwood Audrey Brooks	Barbara Forbes	Chorealis	Marg Booker
November 10	Clair Horne	Audrey Brooks Barbara Forbes	Maureen Crawford Rhonda Jessen	Gordon Ritchie	Ruth Merriott
November 17	Clair Horne	Pauline Atwood Audrey Brooks	David Rae	Karen Mills	Bill Lee
November 24	Clair Horne	Pauline Atwood Audrey Brooks	David Rae	Karen Mills	Bill Lee

Calendar of Church Events

Some upcoming dates from December to May to mark in your calendar. Please watch upcoming newsletters and social media for details and any possible changes:



December 2-8	Chalica
December 15	Mitten Tree, Pancake Brunch CanUUdle Fundraiser
December 16	EVM and Chorealis Holiday Party
December 19	Chorealis Potluck – All are welcome
December 21	Winter Solstice
December 23	Blue Christmas
December 24	Christmas Eve
January 26	Rev. Brian J. Kiely's Final Service
April 4	Membership Dinner
April 30-May 2	UCE Garage Sale
May 3	UCE AGM (Annual General Meeting)
May 15-17	National Conference in Halifax

Please remember that events can be added or changed.

You can keep up with us online – we would really love to hear from you too!

We would love to see more comments on our Facebook and Twitter posts – please give it a try!

Facebook Group -

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/41659071349/>

Facebook Page - <https://www.facebook.com/UnitarianChurch/>

Twitter - <https://twitter.com/UnitarianUCE>

Instagram - <https://www.instagram.com/unitarianuce/>

SoundCloud - <https://soundcloud.com/user-189401827/>

UCE website calendar - <https://www.uce.ca/calendar/>

YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/user/EdmUnitarian>



Westwood
Unitarian Congregation

11135 65 AVE • EDMONTON • AB

Making (a) Room for Everyone

Westwood presents: Celtara! Fri, Nov 22 At 7 Pm
A Celtic Benefit Concert in support of our new accessible all-gender washroom.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/962279600787976/>

Thank you to Scott Harrison and the Communications Committee

for working so hard to have a new entrance wall in time for the Western Region Fall Gathering. It has improved the Welcome into our building. Thank you for creating this new beautiful and impactful wall in the front entranceway.



UCE's Featured Artist



This autumn's artist is Susan Casault. The artist grew up on a farm in Central Alberta and now works from her home in Parkland County. She employs many mediums with coloured pencil and graphite being her main focus over the last several years. She enjoys working in a realistic style and her drawings portray a close attention to detail whether they be portraits, nature studies or prairie landscapes.

For more information, please visit:

http://www.susancasault.com/Susan_Casault_-_Visual_Artist/Welcome.html

Habitat for Humanity Interfaith Works Project For 2020



Habitat for Humanity Edmonton will be hosting their 9th annual Interfaith Works Project in early 2020. They will be looking for help from local faith groups to provide volunteers, donate lunches for work crews, and any other support that UCE is able to offer during this event.

The church representative for Habitat at UCE is Audrey Brooks, who is with the UCE Social Justice Working Group. We will have more details soon. If you have questions about Habitat you can contact Angela at angela@hfh.org.

Western Regional Fall Gathering and Youth Con

The weekend of October 18-20, 2019.

Cohosted by The Unitarian Church of Edmonton and Westwood Unitarian Congregation.

We confronted White Supremacy, Racism, and Climate Crisis. We improved our singing, and sang some fantastic new songs. Plus we ate so well. We “Broasted” our retiring Rev. Brian Kiely. We bonded between the generations, and looked to a Thriving **Future....**





November and December CUC Online Events

Worship as a Beacon for Congregational Growth - Part 2, November 9, 12:30 - 2:30 p.m. ET
Learn how to create and sustain a strong worship program for both clergy and lay led congregations in this online event. Our presenter is the Rev. Dr. Barbara Wells ten Hove. Registration deadline: October 31. Cost: Sliding fee – \$30 – \$35 – \$40 (individual)

Connect and Deep - Virtual Gathering, Monthly - November 10, December 8 - (2nd Sunday of the month), 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. ET Join us for the opportunity to discuss matters of spiritual and theological significance in small groups and connect with people across the country. Cost: Free

Serving With Spirit: Stronger Together, Planning for Partnership, November 23, 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. MT Explore our potential for meaningful, creative congregational networking and partnerships. Together, develop strategies to support and sustain the growing number of small congregations. Rev. Joan Becelaere is the presenter for this event. Registration deadline: November 12. Cost: Sliding fee: \$65 – \$80 – \$95 (individual)

Rethinking UU Governance, Saturday, December 7, 2019, 12:30 - 2:00 p.m. ET Many Canadian UU congregations struggle to find ways in which our very governance, style of organization, will reflect our values and resonate with the lives of those who engage within our communities. Join us for a conversation, beginning with two powerful stories and opening for all participants to share their ideas, experiments and questions. Our two presenters will be Mr. Sanford Osler, North Shore Unitarian Church and Rev. Jessica Rodela, Grand River Unitarian. Registration deadline: November 28. Cost: Free for individuals or groups

Coming Spring 2020

CanUUdle XX: Celebrate 20 years of CanUUdle!

Chorus 2020: National Young Adult Conference

CUC National Annual General Meeting

Hosted by the Universalist Unitarian Church of Halifax

May 15 – 17, 2020



MAKING WAVES



The Unitarian Church of Edmonton is a liberal, multi-generational, religious community

We celebrate a rich mosaic of free-thinking, spiritually-questing individuals joined in common support and action. We welcome diversity including diversity of beliefs from divine believers to humanists, from pagans to atheists and agnostics. We believe in the compassion of the human heart, the warmth of community, the pursuit of justice and the search of meaning in our lives.

We gather with gratitude on traditional Cree lands that are now a part of Treaty Six and shared by many nations. A treaty is an inheritance, a responsibility and a relationship. May we be good neighbours to one another, good stewards to our planet and good ancestors to our children.

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Newsletter Submission Deadline is the 20th of every month.
Please send your article to chadmin@uce.ca

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You do not have to be a member of the congregation to make a tax deductible contribution to UCE.

- ☞ You can donate online by Credit card through [Canada Helps](#) or [ATB Cares](#)
- ☞ Place your donation in the basket during a Sunday service
- ☞ Contact the office for other donation methods