

*The Edmonton Unitarian, Summer 2020, Vol 61.7*



Although UCE has suspended in-person worship services, we invite you to participate in our compassionate, supportive community via our Sunday services online or by phone.

Please go to <https://www.uce.ca/calendar/> for links and updates.

## July Sunday Services

**July 5: *Spirit in the Six UU Sources***, Joint Service With Westwood Unitarian Congregation  
Serendipity Services are interactive, conversational gatherings, where participants hear ideas and readings – and share their reflections if they wish to. You are always welcome to simply listen. Where do you turn for strength, wisdom, comfort, or to be challenged? What inspires you to action or cautions you to re-think your choices? What helps you discern your direction in life? Sustains you in a crisis? Join us for an informal Sunday morning that invites you into reflection and into community.  
**<https://bit.ly/3i80X6F> Meeting ID: 980 518 0318 password 518409 Phone in +1-587-328-1099**

**July 12: *Hope and Perseverance: Genocide Memorial***, Reverend Audrey Brooks, CUC National Service.  
This year the theme is “Witness, Hope, Interconnections” We will gather on Zoom, with speakers from countries where people die violent deaths because of intentional attacks against them. We give witness to their names, remembering that unless we do this, they fade into history as nothing. Rabbi David Kunin will speak about the interconnectedness of all of us, as we face current crises in our world. Presented by Rev. Audrey Brooks, Bill Lee, Karen Bilida, Kimberly Lang, Gordon Ritchie, and other helpers.  
**\*\*You must preregister for this Nationally held service. <https://bit.ly/3fOLF4K> Meeting ID: 87616956199 Password: 483027 Phone in +1-587-328-1099**

**July 19: *How has Pandemic Isolation Changed You?*** Susan Ruttan  
This pandemic has robbed us of all sorts of comforts and pleasures, but many of us have found ways to survive the social distancing. We’ll share some of those stories.  
**<http://tiny.cc/fafcncz> Meeting ID: 200-338-874 Or phone +1-587-328-1099**

**July 26: *Any Bowl Can Be a Chalice***, Beth Jenkins  
A service exploring sources of comfort and inspiration during difficult times.  
**<http://tiny.cc/fafcncz> Meeting ID: 200-338-874 Or phone +1-587-328-1099**

## August Sunday Services

Please go to <https://www.uce.ca/calendar/> for links and updates.

**August 2: *Wisdom in the Six UU Sources***, Joint Service With Westwood Unitarian Congregation Service Leader: Ilara

Where do you turn for strength, wisdom, comfort, or to be challenged? What inspires you to action or cautions you to re-think your choices? What helps you discern your direction in life? Sustains you in a crisis? Join us for an informal Sunday morning that invites you into reflection and into community.

**<https://bit.ly/3i80X6F> Meeting ID: 980 518 0318 password 518409 Phone in +1-587-328-1099**

**August 9: *Finding Our Way to UCE***, Susan Ruttan

Our faith community is unique in the number of people who aren't born into it, but who find us as adults. Those spiritual journeys to our UU church are always fascinating, and they make us the special place that we are.

**<http://tiny.cc/fafcnz> Meeting ID: 200-338-874 Or phone +1-587-328-1099**

**August 16: *Theatre is Religion***, John Sproule, Coralie Cairns

Service description to come... please watch online for more details. John Sproule, Coralie Cairns

**<http://tiny.cc/fafcnz> Meeting ID: 200-338-874 Or phone +1-587-328-1099**

**August 23: TBD – Your Name and Idea Should Be Here**

**\*\* No slides required**

Summer Services at UCE. Still looking for one or more people to lead one of our informal virtual summer services. We're scaling back this year, so just need your energy to lead a discussion circle with readings and some of the basic UU worship elements. Contact John Pater, [johncpater@gmail.com](mailto:johncpater@gmail.com), if you can help out.

**<http://tiny.cc/fafcnz> Meeting ID: 200-338-874 Or phone +1-587-328-1099**

**August 30: *Morning Coffee Hour at 10:30am***

Please join us in conversation at 10:30am, followed by the National Service hosted by Westwood UC at 2:00pm

**<http://tiny.cc/fafcnz> Meeting ID: 200-338-874 Or phone +1-587-328-1099**

**August 30: *Nature in the Six UU Sources***, Westwood Unitarian Congregation, CUC National Service (begins 2:00pm MT)

**\*\*You must preregister for this Nationally held service. <https://bit.ly/3fOLF4K>**

**Meeting ID: 87616956199 Password: 483027 Phone in +1-587-328-1099**

## Welcome Reverend Lee Anne Washington!

Our search for an interim minister has reached a very happy conclusion. On September 1<sup>st</sup>, Reverend Lee Anne Washington will join UCE on our journey for the next two years.



Rev. Lee Anne comes to us from her hometown in White Stone, Virginia -- a small rural village where she raised her daughter Lucy, now a third-year at the University of Virginia. White Stone is the gateway to a geographic area designated as the Northern Neck -- an area bounded on the North by the Potomac River, on the South by the Rappahannock River, and on the East by the Chesapeake Bay. Members of her family have lived in the area since the mid 1600s and she is related by birth or by marriage to many of the Northern Neck's inhabitants.

Ministry is Rev. Lee Anne's second profession. She was an attorney, author, and educator for over 30 years prior to her ordination as a Unitarian Universalist Minister on January 27, 2019. She obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from the College of William & Mary in Virginia; a Juris Doctor from the University of Virginia's law school; and a Master of Divinity from Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, Virginia -- where she learned to read biblical Hebrew and Greek; and to translate biblical scripture in unbiased and non-misogynistic ways.

Rev. Lee Anne describes her theology this way:

I have intentionally embraced the notion that each of us has a divine spark within us and that each of us has spiritual gifts to offer others. When we recognize the divine spark within each other and use our various spiritual gifts for the common good, a beloved community comes into being -- where all people share in the wealth of the earth, all people are embraced, and all people are treated rightly. It is toward this end that I have accepted the call to ministry.

My ministry is composed of three separate, but related missions:

- To share the wisdom and ethical guidance found in the world's major religions, in philosophical schools of thought, and in the sciences;
- To facilitate meaningful connections with and among members of the congregation; and
- To facilitate a congregation's knowledge, commitment, and action in service to justice.

Lee Anne's plan is to travel to Edmonton in mid-August, so that she has time to get settled (and self-isolate) before September. Housing has already been arranged, so now we just have to keep our fingers crossed that travel is permitted. In the event that it isn't, plans are already in the works for a "remote" start.

Thanks to everyone who helped compile our congregation's search application package and contract, offered words of support to the Board, and has patiently waited for this good news. It's going to be an exciting new adventure for all of us!

## The UCE Board Survey



The UCE Board will be meeting on August 12 to discuss future services.

We will be releasing an online survey for you to fill out in order to assist us with our decision-making process; the survey will be emailed out toward the end of July

If you need a copy mailed to you, please contact Janet (780-454-8073) before Saturday July 18, 2020 (please leave a message on the voice mail if necessary).

**Please make sure that your contact information is up to date**

**<https://www.uce.ca/membership-information-update/>**

**“Regular verification” will be appropriate for most**

## **Tuesday Night Coffee Hours and Rev Anne’s Wednesday meetings are done for the Summer, Now we have Wednesday Evening Conversation Nights**

Wednesday evenings at 7:00pm  
Each meeting will have a different topic.

Our first get together was on June 24 and the topic was gardening.  
July 1’s topic is Staycation (a vacation spent in one’s home country rather than abroad, or one spent at home and involving day trips to local attractions.)

Bring your challenges and triumphs, your experience and pictures.
















Upcoming topics will include: Gardening, Staycations, Andrew Como, The book I’m reading, A funny thing happened on the way to..... Watch your email and Facebook for updates.

Pauline Atwood has graciously offered to host!

<https://zoom.us/j/96468995054> Meeting ID: 964 6899 5054



## Heart to Heart

-  Heartfelt blessings to all our congregants who keep us safe by practicing protocols given by Alberta Health.
-  Sending our love to the Cloutier family as Clem's health continues to deteriorate.
-  To Gerard Hayduk who prepares the last farewell for his beloved Stephen, and to Gordon for helping.
  -  Stephan was an artist, if you would like to see some of his work, please visit <https://uaextension.wixsite.com/extensiongallery/stephen-greenhalgh>
-  Dear Yvonne, who would have left for a holiday this week, perhaps this can still happen later.
-  To those who must visit loved ones from a distance, may your energy sustain you each day.
-  To the Karens who keep our church ship on a fairly even keel, in the face of challenges as we transition
-  To the UCE board who are also making important decisions as we enter new church-based territories.
-  There are Tuesday volunteers still lurking about UCE quietly doing repairs and discussing world affairs.
-  At the church Kathy, Donna and a work crew are resurrecting, reorganizing and cleaning the garden, while encouraging anyone with time and energy to take up their cause.
-  Gordon Ritchie and Robert Begg celebrated their first anniversary in May, such nice fellows!
-  To Elin, Art, and all those whose birthdays slipped under the radar, may your year be exactly as you want!
-  May all who are in isolation because of health issues and who would like a phone call, let Audrey know: there are people here who love to talk, as we all know!!
-  Also check out Lance Beswick's interesting Facebook posts!
-  Note the Newsletter invitation to the 12<sup>th</sup> annual Genocide Memorial Service on the second Sunday in July

“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](mailto:audbrook@telusplanet.net), or phone 780-489-8842 and ask for Chaplain Audrey

## RE Update

Hi Everyone,

I hope you are all doing well. I hope you all have a wonderful summer and with lots of fun activities. I will be off until next September, but hopefully, we will be able to see each other then. Parents/Guardians, registration for next year's program is open now please fill out the form <https://www.uce.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/RE-Registration-Form-2020-21.pdf> and send it to Will Adair ([ucekids@uce.ca](mailto:ucekids@uce.ca)). Later this summer an electronically submitted form will be available on the website. If you need to reach me for anything children or youth-related I will be checking it periodically throughout the summer, please email me at [ucekids@uce.ca](mailto:ucekids@uce.ca).

The reading I have chosen to share with you this month is one of transition and beginnings. I feel it is relevant on many levels for us. It reminds us to reflect on the passage of time and the importance of the cycle.

### THE SEASONS OF LIFE

By Mary Frances Comer

We are grateful to mark time with seasons,  
to celebrate birthdays and anniversaries,  
or to gather as family to remember our loved ones.

In all these seasons, may we give thanks for the breath of life,  
ever mindful of the fragile nature of existence.  
May we live fully in each moment.

From summer to fall and winter to spring,  
we gather in mystery and in the bonds of beloved community.

May we radiate love both within and beyond these walls,  
this day and all the days to come,  
caring for those we love and for those we have yet to meet.

Again, I hope you are all doing well, and if you need to, please contact me by email. I would love to hear from you.

Stay safe, William

## Summer Office Hours

This summer there will be a reduction in administrative hours. Starting June 22<sup>nd</sup>, I will be working 6 hours a week and still based in my home office. Part of my time will be taking over most of the volunteer roles during the Sunday services that the UCE is hosting. The remainder of my time will be used on Wednesday mornings.

Thank you for your patience during these difficult times, Janet Polkovsky [chadmin@uce.ca](mailto:chadmin@uce.ca)

Please watch for the UCE emails sent out 1-2 times per week to keep you updated. If you did not get an email this week please call Janet at 780-454-8073.

## Sharing Our Abundance

Each Sunday we usually collect money for a different charity. Now that we are not meeting in person we hope that you will take time to go to the charity of the month's website and donate what you are willing and able to.

**July -- Centre To End All Sexual Exploitation (CEASE), Edmonton** works with community partners to heal the harm of sexual exploitation which includes public education, support, bursaries, trauma recovery and emergency poverty relief. <http://www.ceasenow.org/>



**August -- Boyle Street Co-Op, Edmonton** is a non-profit, inner city agency which assists individuals and families challenged by homelessness and poverty. Each year they help over 12,000 people. They provide health care, mental health and addictions support, housing, employment counseling and drop in services. <https://www.boylestreet.org/>



## Library Update

In the next while, I will be scanning and archiving the photo albums that are in our library. To maximize space efficiency, we are planning to store some of our collection in photo file boxes. Is there anyone who has containers that they were planning to donate to the garage sale that would be suitable for storing photos, and would be the right size to place on the library shelves? If so, please contact me. Thank you! Jane Calderin, [calderin@telus.net](mailto:calderin@telus.net)

## Let's Keep Connecting

What's one of your favourite things about UCE? I bet most of you said, "the people"! I would agree. I love the conversations before the services, at coffee hour, during committee meetings, book club, choir practice (well, not *during* choir practice), and over soapy water while doing post-potluck dishes. I get glimpses into what makes people tick and learn how to live out our UU principles. Keeping up these conversations while we're physically distancing is important – for UCE attenders and for those who are seeking community. How can we do it? Online!

UCE already has established social media accounts, but they need your help to keep them engaging, conversational and diverse.

- [Facebook Group](https://www.facebook.com/groups/41659071349/) - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/41659071349/>
- [Facebook Page](https://www.facebook.com/UnitarianChurch/) - <https://www.facebook.com/UnitarianChurch/>
- [Twitter](https://twitter.com/UnitarianUCE) - <https://twitter.com/UnitarianUCE>
- [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/unitarianuce/) - <https://www.instagram.com/unitarianuce/>
- [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/user/EdmUnitarian) - <https://www.youtube.com/user/EdmUnitarian>
- [Podcast](https://soundcloud.com/user-189401827) - <https://soundcloud.com/user-189401827>



## Recordings of UCE Services for May & June 2020



UCE podcasts the audio of Sunday services on our SoundCloud.com channel. 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 UCE. Once subscribed, you can stream any service or you can download it to your phone, tablet, or computer and then listen without an internet connection.

If you don't wish to use a podcast app, you can stream the services directly from SoundCloud. Here are direct links to all March services and to April services uploaded prior to the Newsletter publication.

**May 3** *Jewish Traditions for Today's UUs*,  
Karen Mills & Gordon Ritchie  
<https://bit.ly/2zWpZ7h>  
<https://youtu.be/74y17hMyrzM>

**May 10** *Cultures of Motherhood*, Rev. Audrey  
Brooks & Dr. Jennifer Askey  
<https://bit.ly/2AirNHV>  
<https://youtu.be/uNUsPacG0no>

**May 17** *What Does it Mean to Do Good?* Rev.  
Anne Barker & Jeff Bisanz, Joint Service with  
Westwood  
<https://bit.ly/2zb98xi>  
<https://youtu.be/WNTDtI7DQAI>

**May 24** *Architecture for Social Justice*, Lillias  
Cowper  
<https://bit.ly/3gnXss3>  
<https://youtu.be/Pqa-K1GNwtc>

**May 31** *Radical Theology*, Andrew Mills  
<https://bit.ly/3ex701S>  
<https://youtu.be/A9IQ6SQGPnA>

**Jun 7** *Flower Communion*, Beth Jenkins  
<https://bit.ly/378BLIh>  
<https://youtu.be/4aKHsg8HDZQ>

**Jun 14** *Being Queer but not Sexual: Pride  
Service*, UCE Youth  
<https://bit.ly/2MRTRF7>  
<https://youtu.be/534mWqbPaJw>

**Jun 21** *Litha (Summer Solstice)*, Ali  
Hammington  
<https://bit.ly/3d6bT17>  
<https://youtu.be/f82vRTiKDQc>



You can also watch past Sunday Services on YouTube.  
(<https://www.youtube.com/user/EdmUnitarian>)

**List of Services Sep 2018 to Jun 2019** <https://bit.ly/2PnYPef>

**List of Services Sep 2019 to Present** <https://bit.ly/3bYzAJ8>

**Lists Services on YouTube** Each playlist covers a church year.

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

Thank you to Bill Lee and Geoff Jackson for editing, and posting to SoundCloud and YouTube.





## UU's Around Canada

### Unitarians A-Z

July 14, July 28, August 11, August 25

5 pm MT

Join John Sproule from Don Heights Congregation for a light-hearted PowerPoint show on Unitarian, Universalist and UU biographies, with audience participation.

Each show stands on its own. <https://cuc.ca/events/unitarians-a-z-june-23/1592938800/1592944200/>

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8339952710?pwd=R0k0ZXI3WlFR2xFMW9UWEjTDIOZz09>

Meeting ID: 833 995 2710, password: 1111

### Check in and Zoom Practice

Every Thursday between 3-4pm Edmonton time.

If people are interested in learning about hosting or co-hosting, we can spend some time on that as well.

You'll need the link and password. If you don't know it, contact Mary at [ucvconnect@gmail.com](mailto:ucvconnect@gmail.com)

You are welcome to just drop-in - wave, chat, say "hello" or stay as long as you want to.

## From the Canadian Unitarian Council (CUC)

Information about all the upcoming CUC events, including additional dates and times, and forms for registered events can be found on our Events page on our website. <https://cuc.ca/events>

### Connect and Deepen

Sunday, June 28 and Saturday, July 11, 5 pm AT, 4 pm ET, 3 pm CT, 2 pm MT, 1 pm PT

More information is available at <https://cuc.ca/events/connect-and-deepen-june-2020/1593360000/1593365400/>

### **\*\*NEW\*\*** Informal YA HangoUUt

**This is a casual social drop-in space for young adults (18-35 year olds)**

Sunday, June 28, 2 pm MT, Monday, July 6, 7:15 pm MT after Gathered Here,

Sunday, July 12, 2pm MT

More information is available at <https://cuc.ca/events/informal-ya-hangouut-june-28/1593360000/1593365400/>

### Gathered Here

Monday, July 6, 6 pm MT

More information is available at <https://cuc.ca/events/gathered-here-mondays-july-august/1594065600/1594071000/>


## National Summer Sunday Services

Preregistration on Zoom required at <https://bit.ly/UUSummer>

### Sunday Summer Services Series

Sundays, 2 pm MT

More information is available at <https://cuc.ca/events/sunday-summer-services-series/1593964800/1593972000/>

DATE	GROUP NAME	THEME
July 5 2pm	North Shore Unitarian Congregation	Religion and Disruption
July 12* different time 10:30 Mountain	Unitarian Church of Edmonton	Hope and Perseverance: Genocide Memorial
July 19 2pm	Youth	National Youth Service: Celebrating life in a time when life is limited
July 26 2pm	Unitarian Church of Montreal	Lessons from the Playground: Reflections from RE teachers
August 2 2pm	Young Adults	 "To Get to the Other Side"
August 9 2pm	U. Fellowship of Fredericton	This service will focus on the connections between the UFF and the one-time Harvey Universalist Church
August 16 2pm	Saskatoon Unitarians	Reverence for Weird Things
August 23 2pm	Grand River Unitarian (Kitchener)	"Parable of the Plumber." The Tao teaches, "Where the cup's useful is where it is not." So what are we to do when our cup "runneth over"?
August 30 2pm	Westwood Unitarian Congregation	Nature in the 6 Sources

**\*\*You must preregister for this Nationally held service. <https://bit.ly/3fOLF4K>**

**Meeting ID: 87616956199 Password: 483027**

**Phone in +1-587-328-1099**

The CUC's Zoom has a capacity of 1,000 so if you find yourself unable to enter the service, even if you're pre-registered, head on over to the [CUC's YouTube channel](#).

## CUC Releases Statement On Police Violence Against Indigenous People

In 2020, more Indigenous people have died as a direct result of their interactions with Canadian police forces. Most recently the deaths of Chantal Moore and Rodney Levi in New Brunswick, and Eisha Hudson, Jason Collins, and Stewart Kevin Andrews in Winnipeg have illustrated the tragic results of the systemic oppressions and discrimination within our social and justice systems.

Representing a community of faith which believes in the inherent worth and dignity of all, the Canadian Unitarian Council calls on the Government of Canada and the provincial and territorial governments to implement changes to policing to better protect racialized populations. Priority should be given to implementing existing recommendations, such as those of The National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG), and to developing police approaches which are responsive, accountable, culturally appropriate, and anti-racist. We again urge the federal government to issue their plan to implement the recommendations within the MMIWG report.

We call on all police forces across the country to acknowledge systemic racism and its impact on the health and safety of Indigenous people who have interactions with police. We further call on all police forces to review and revise how they interact with Indigenous, Black and other racialized people, and with those with mental health and addiction issues, making de-escalation tactics the standard. Police forces, their leaders and individual officers must be held publicly accountable for their actions. Police forces, and their oversight bodies must actively work to diversify their members by increasing the representation of racialized communities in their ranks.

Further, we encourage Unitarian Universalists to contact their police forces and all levels of government to urge the enactment of these changes that are needed, and such as those recommended by the Ontario Human Rights Commission. None of us can afford to be silent any longer. The time for change is now.

~ From the CUC's National Voice Team: UU Ministers of Canada President, Rev. Anne Barker; CUC Board President, Margaret Wanlin, and Executive Director, Vyda Ng

Read the statement and sample letter for political and police officials

<https://cuc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Statement-on-Police-Violence-Against-Indigenous-People.2020-06.pdf>

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.

**THE EDMONTON UNITARIAN PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE  
UNITARIAN CHURCH OF EDMONTON Vol. 61 No. 07**

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Newsletter Submission Deadline is the 20<sup>th</sup> of every month.  
Please send your article to [chadmin@uce.ca](mailto: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](#)
- ☎ Contact the office for other donation methods