



*The Edmonton Unitarian, December 2020, Vol 61.11*

## **December's Theme: Stillness**

### **November 29      *Loving Kindness Meditation Heals***

The social isolation caused by the COVID-19 restrictions have brought on feelings of isolation, stress, anxiety, and frustration, among others. As an antidote to these negative emotions, Rev. Lee Anne will guide us in a loving kindness meditation -- which studies show reduces stress, anxiety, and anger, while increasing empathy, compassion, and feelings of well-being (First Advent Candle: Hope) **Service Leader: Rev Lee Anne**

### **December 6      *Stillness as Resistance***

Our culture values productivity and profit above all else. And, to achieve those ends we must be constantly moving . . . somewhere . . . and doing. . . something. In all this moving and doing our peace of mind is constantly being interrupted by the distracting sounds of people's voices, the low hum of machinery, and the beeps of electronic devices. And the guilt associated with not fulfilling others' expectations of what we should be able to achieve is exhausting. Rev. Lee Anne will explore stillness as an act of resistance to these dehumanizing forces. (Second Advent Candle: Peace) **Service Leader: Rev Lee Anne**

### **December 13      *Celebrating the Joy of Community . . .***

#### ***Let's Sing, and Laugh, and Share our Decorated Mitten Trees!***

Join us as we virtually celebrate the season in real community. We'll sing some songs, tell some stories, and share pictures of our mitten trees! Let's not let our inability to decorate a mitten tree at church dampen our enthusiasm for providing the much needed warmth that our donations of mittens, scarves, and socks provide. You can still participate and bring joy to your friends at UCE by sharing up to 3 still pictures of you and yours including some mittens, scarves, and socks as you decorate your Christmas tree, or as you deliver them to a donation box. Feel free to wear your ugly Christmas sweater and "ham" it up!

***Please provide your pictures to [ucemittentree@gmail.com](mailto:ucemittentree@gmail.com) before Dec 9 so we can make a collage of picture slides for the service.***

(Third Advent Candle: Joy) **Service Leader: Rev Lee Anne**

### **December 20      *A Solstice Celebration***

In the bleak and cold winter, we gather ourselves in, to light the fire to warm our spirits, to kindle the flame of love and hope.

(Fourth Advent Candle: Love) **Service Leaders: Karen M, Yvonne M, and Gordon R**

All Sunday Services, Blue Christmas, and Christmas Eve have the same Meeting ID and link.

Join Zoom Meeting: [uce.ca/service](https://uce.ca/service)

Meeting ID: 200 338 874 +1 587 328 1099

Please sign in before 10:20 am for the services.

### **Wed. December 23 7:00pm *Blue Christmas: Leaning into the Stillness***

Rev. Lee Anne continues the time honored tradition of recognizing that the Christmas Season isn't a joyous occasion for everyone. Many of us are grieving lost loved ones, lost relationships, lost financial security, lost health and vitality and lost meaning in our lives. If you are not having a very merry Christmas, you and those who support you are invited to participate in a worship and comfort service. Our Blue Christmas service acknowledges your pain, comforts your soul, and affirms that love is stronger than fear, life is stronger than death, and hope is stronger than despair. Together, we will lean on each other and on the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

**Service Leader: Rev Lee Anne**

### **Thurs. December 24 7:00pm *Christmas Eve – Kindness can make any journey a bit easier***

In the story of Jesus' birth there is a blessing: a possibility of a better world. This possibility arises when we remember that we are all connected; when we choose kindness and generosity; when we remember that each one of us matters; when we allow our hearts to be changed by love and wonder.

**Service Leader: Gordon Ritchie**

### **December 27 *Desperately Seeking Stillness (Stillness Meditation)***

What comes after the fear of not having enough; after the frenzy of buying, wrapping, and sending holiday cards and gifts; and after the disappointment of a small self-contained Christmas? Rev. Lee Anne suggests "stillness." She will explore the power of being still and introduce several different methods of achieving this ancient and restorative state of being.

**Service Leader: Rev Lee Anne**

### **January 3, 2021 *Reflections***

The January 3, 2021 service will be a shared reflection on the year past. 2020 has been the most dramatic of years. To prepare for the service, we ask that you reflect on the stories that have most impacted you this year - the top news stories of the year, the top creative arts stories of the year (your favourite novels, movies, theatre, other art forms), and top personal stories of the year. Unlike in other years when it is easy to pass around a microphone, this year we are asking that you submit your top stories in advance, either through this [survey tool](#) or by emailing [johncpater@gmail.com](mailto:johncpater@gmail.com). Please submit up to three top choices for each category. Everyone's submissions will be compiled and drawn up as lists to be shared at the service. Thank you for sharing your top stories of the year.

**Service Leader: John Pater**

All Sunday Services, Blue Christmas, and Christmas Eve have the same Meeting ID and link.

Join Zoom Meeting: [uce.ca/service](https://uce.ca/service)

Meeting ID: 200 338 874 +1 587 328 1099

## Ministerial Musings

Dear Ones,

Our theme for December is Stillness -- something I confess that I find difficult to achieve in my own life. My preferred means of meditation is moving meditation, especially walking alone in silence -- along the water's edge, through a forest, or simply around the one central block in my little village.

I have the sort of mind that always has a running conversation going on. Sometimes I'm working on a sermon topic. Sometimes I'm working on the best way to respond to various relationship challenges -- at home, at work, and in the community at large. Sometimes, I'm just admiring my surroundings with a torrent of descriptive words.



Achieving physical and mental stillness is a bit of a challenge for me. Having said that, I do catch precious moments of both -- when I stop and inhale the fresh morning air and recognize, without descriptive words, the beauty of my surroundings; when I sit on the ground and watch, without comment, the comings and goings of tiny insects inhabiting the microcosm that exists beneath the lawn; and when I lie on the ground looking up in speechless awe at the starry night sky. Each time I manage such stillness of body and mind, I find myself physically refreshed and mentally lighter afterwards.

When was the last time that you achieved physical and mental stillness? Under what circumstances have you experienced such stillness? And, how do you feel once you do?

In *The Wisdom of Patanjali's Yoga Sutras: A New Translation and Guide by Ravi Ravindra*, I found a particularly persuasive argument for continuing to pursue a state of stillness:

As spiritual searchers we need to become freer and freer of the attachment to our own smallness in which we get occupied with me-me-me. Pondering on large ideas or standing in front of things which remind us of a vast scale can free us from acquisitiveness and competitiveness and from our likes and dislikes. If we sit with an increasing stillness of the body, and attune our mind to the sky or to the ocean or to the myriad stars at night, or any other indicators of vastness, the mind gradually stills and the heart is filled with quiet joy. Also recalling our own experiences in which we acted generously or with compassion for the simple delight of it without expectation of any gain can give us more confidence in the existence of a deeper goodness from which we may deviate <sup>(39)</sup>.

May you soon catch a moment of stillness!

Blessings,  
Rev. Lee Anne  
Email: [uce.interim.minister@gmail.com](mailto:uce.interim.minister@gmail.com)  
Phone: (780) 454-9797

## RE Update

Hi Everyone,

A warm season's greetings to everyone. I hope you are all keeping safe and warm.

This month's mailout theme is Stillness—what a fantastic theme for our reflections this month. I will also include some fun holiday activities and info. We have many this month, including Chalica, Chanukah, Winter Solstice, Christmas, and Kwanzaa, to name a few. I believe Karen Bilida has something planned for Chalica; please check it out. Showing the importance that this time of change has on the world. We will also be having some online activities coming up:

- Youth Sunday zoom – every Sunday @ noon. Link posted to UCE Family group on Facebook and Youth Discord.
- Family zoom gathering – Dec. 13 @ 2 pm. The link is <https://zoom.us/j/7808076380>
- Storytime videos – throughout the month.
- Family Movie time (same link for all movie nights) <https://zoom.us/j/7808076380>
  - Dec. 20 @ 1 pm, Miracle on 34th Street, 1947
  - Dec. 27 @ 1 pm, Frozen II
- Youth Movie Nights <https://zoom.us/j/7808076380>
  - Dec. 22 @ 7 pm, Jingle Jangle
  - Dec. 29 @ 7 pm, Captain Marvel

To close out, I would like to leave you with these words,

### Winter Solstice Litany, By Florence Caplow

For the darkness that nourishes our spirits;  
for the seasons that remind us that each moment has its own beauty;  
for generosity in whatever form:  
    Blessings and praise!  
For snowy winter mornings before a single footstep disturbs the Stillness;  
for candles gleaming through the night;

for the gifts of sorrow and transformation;  
for memories of those long gone:  
    Blessings and praise!  
For the children who find such magic in this season;  
for the brave birds who stay with us all winter;  
for the scent of greenery:  
    Blessings and praise!



I hope you all are well. Stay safe,  
William

[ucekids@uce.ca](mailto:ucekids@uce.ca)  
780-454-5816

# Happy Chalice

Chalice is a chance for us to celebrate our Seven Unitarian Universalist Principles. You are invited to take this week to deepen your relationship with these Principles and how you choose to act them out in your everyday life. This is an excellent opportunity to light your chalice at home each night and to soak in the personal meaning of your chosen faith.

Please watch for special Chalice postings online for each day of [Chalice!](#)

2020 Dates	UU Principle	Suggestions
<b>Monday</b> Dec 7	The inherent worth and dignity of every person	Go through your closets and pull out warm items that you no longer use. Blankets, coats and warm sweaters are great to keep in your car for handing out to those you see in need. Take a picture for Mitten Tree and send to <a href="mailto:UCEMittenTree@gmail.com">UCEMittenTree@gmail.com</a>
<b>Tuesday</b> Dec 8	Justice, equity and compassion in human relations	Demonstrate this through an act of kindness. Participate in ways that promote justice, equity, and compassion. Set up a Zoom Chalice Circle once a month and show people you care.
<b>Wednesday</b> Dec 9	Acceptance of one another and encouragement of spiritual growth in our congregations	Explore your own faith and download the <a href="#">UU Worship Web app</a> ; you can find lots of Inspiration. Connect with members of our community to acknowledge and share this celebration, encourage spiritual growth in our congregation.
<b>Thursday</b> Dec 10	A free and responsible search for truth and meaning	What is your favorite quote about life? How does your quote express your personal philosophy? Share these with others and allow questions. Perhaps create an art piece or write a journal entry about why this quote is important.
<b>Friday</b> Dec 11	The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large	Mail in your letters that you wrote for the Amnesty International Write For Rights Campaign Join us on Zoom for the Writing Bee: Dec 3 7-9 PM, Dec 6 2-4 PM, Dec 10 7-9 PM write to show how we are all connected and when united we can change the world
<b>Saturday</b> Dec 12	The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all	<a href="#">Fold a Peace Crane</a> and learn the story Learn " <a href="#">Meditation on Breathing</a> " from our hymnbook Singing the Journey, Hymn 1009. Today make an agreement to not use words as weapons but as a way to gain greater understanding of another point of view
<b>Sunday</b> Dec 13	Respect for the interdependent we of all existence of which we are a part	Go on a nature walk, take the time to look around at how our web of life works. Create an outdoor decoration such as Cheerio's on yarn or a toilet paper tube with peanut butter rolled in bird seeds to feed the animals.

<https://uuccglenallen.org/wp-content/uploads/ChalUUCa-Booklet.pdf>

<https://www.uuworld.org/articles/chalice-gains-adherents>

## A Word from Canvass

Donors, please remember to get your donations in to the church before the end of December. This is especially important to people who give an annual, or semi-annual donation. In order for the church to send you a tax receipt for the 2020 year we must receive your donation before the end of December. Each year we have a few people who miss the deadline and their tax receipt is delayed until the following year. This is your reminder to please send your donation in December.

Please do not attempt to deliver your donation in person to the church office. The church office is closed to in-person visits. A donation by mail postmarked before December 31<sup>st</sup> will be fine. You can also donate using electronic means by sending an Interac transfer to [chadmin@uce.ca](mailto:chadmin@uce.ca), or by using Canada Helps to pay by credit card.

Thank you all for your donations to support the work of our church.  
<https://www.uce.ca/support-our-work-donations-planned-giving/>

### Sharing Our Abundance for December

**RISE – RECONCILIATION IN SOLIDARITY EDMONTON** – is a group of citizens in the



**RISE**  
RECONCILIATION IN SOLIDARITY EDMONTON

Edmonton region committed to reconciliation in actions and words. They are committed to raising awareness of the lasting impacts of residential school, creating safe spaces for conversations about reconciliation, and offering opportunities to learn more about and engage with Indigenous culture



It is that time again!!

### Mitten Tree!

Pull out your favourite ugly Christmas sweater, take a picture of yourself decorating your tree with mittens/ socks/ scarves, or making a donation (online or at a drop off location). Please email your pictures to [ucemittentree@gmail.com](mailto:ucemittentree@gmail.com) before Dec 9.



## Can I Make a Difference? 2020 “Write for Rights”

**WRITE  
FOR RIGHTS**

AMNESTY  
INTERNATIONAL

Since last March, we are all having to live with a lot we cannot change. But we *can* creatively carry on with our traditions --- and here’s a way each of us can make a difference, easily and safely:

**Write a letter for Amnesty International’s 2020 Write for Rights campaign!**

In past years, we’d gather at tables in the church foyer after Sunday service. This year, no need to leave your home: through Zoom sessions on 3 different dates, by email and by phone as needed, I will help people to write their letters.

**Why:** Amnesty International tracks the effect of these letter-writing campaigns, and can show that they *do result in changes*, such as the release of people unjustly imprisoned. More info: <https://writeathon.ca/successes/>

**When:** during December, to mark Dec 10, Human Rights Day. This is a strong tie-in to our UU principles, 1, 2, 6 & especially 5: “*The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large.*”

**What:** read a short description of a featured case, and write a short (1-page) letter following the guide by Amnesty International. Addresses and example wording provided. Write one letter, write several --- it’s up to you. There are ten cases to choice from; at least one is bound to “speak to you.”

Zoom sessions: **Meeting #: 931 1786 1807** or check UCE Calendar

**Thursday, Dec 3, 7 – 9 PM**

**Sunday Dec 6, 2 – 4 PM**

**Thursday, Dec 10, 7 – 9 PM**

**More info:** <https://writeathon.ca/about/> or contact me, [Ruth.Merriott@gmail.com](mailto:Ruth.Merriott@gmail.com)



**Would You Like To Host A  
Craft Night?**

**Some Chalice Crafts you  
can do ... .**

A rice krispie chalice  
created by Edinburgh  
Unitarians Children Zoom  
Bake Off

Chocolate Chalice  
- Hersey's Kiss  
(gold colour),  
Reese's cup,  
Tootsie rolls



## Tuesday Night, Music Night!

With Pauline Atwood hosting at 7pm on Tuesday nights, each person brings their music choice and we talk about why we chose the song, what was happening in our lives, what was happening in the larger society, the artist, the context...  
[uce.ca/tuesdaynight](https://uce.ca/tuesdaynight) Meeting ID 956 5643 4070



### Heart to Heart

I was driving to an appointment and saw this sign, " We are fighting a pandemic, not each other." It was intended to encourage people to wear masks and keep safe distances in public. We have entered into a time of fear and anxiety. Our contacts have disappeared, our social events followed, and our families go into hyper-caution mode for our safety and theirs.

Yet, we have created small enclosures of people who practice safety protocols, recommended by Alberta Health Services to guard us from infection. Many have discovered Zoom, where we have face-to-face contact through church services, choral groups, discussions, and a variety of other interactions. Sure, it's not the same as seeing each other in person, but it beats the heck out of watching paint dry and feeding depression. Receiving a phone call from someone who cares about us can also make a dark day look a lot brighter.

I see us as a murmuration of Unitarians, keeping the flock together in the face of a predator, even when we have to break off and come back to take our places. We stay strong because each is part of the whole, holding on to beliefs and principles that bind us. We keep our worth and dignity; we honour each other's humanity; we endure.

This is my last Heart to Heart Column. As of January 1, I am retiring as UCE Chaplain, having, at the age of 80, reached my, "best before," date.

Going forward, please contact Rev Lee Anne for your pastoral care needs.

(Email: [uce.interim.minister@gmail.com](mailto:uce.interim.minister@gmail.com) Phone: (780) 454-9797)

"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 Brooks.

### Have you Greeted Interim Minister Rev Lee Anne to UCE yet?



Please join Rev Lee Anne in casual conversation Tuesday morning from 10am-11pm on Zoom.

Drop in for a couple of minutes or stay for the full hour.  
All Are Welcome!

You can join by regular phone or online.

<https://bit.ly/3j4ePPv> Meeting ID: 984 8583 4810 +1 587 328 1099



## Help keep our UCE community connected!

Have a UCE craft afternoon, trivia night, lead a baking class,  
start a book club, have a political discussion group,  
lead a yoga afternoon...

You can do this all on zoom!

Please let Karen Bilida ([Unitarian.Edmonton@yahoo.ca](mailto:Unitarian.Edmonton@yahoo.ca))  
know if you would like to book the UCE zoom account, or need help  
setting up your own zoom account.



**Thank you so much to Pauline Atwood for Hosting Music  
Nights every Tuesday Night... so many people are enjoying the  
connection!**

## We Want To Hear You On Sundays



Rev. Lee Anne and the Church Services Committee invite you to add your  
voice to our Sunday worship services. We are seeking readers who are willing  
to read a chalice lighting, a chalice extinguishing, or a short written work. For  
more information and sign ups, go to

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4FAFAA22A0F9CE9-uceworship>.

## **Next UCE Board meeting is Wednesday December 9 at 7:15pm via Zoom.**

All are welcome to attend UCE board meetings, please contact [board@uce.ca](mailto:board@uce.ca) a minimum of  
one week before the scheduled meeting to add any items to the agenda.

Janet's office hours for the last 2 weeks of December 2020:

December Tuesday 22, Wednesday 23, Thursday 24, Tuesday 29 and  
Wednesday 30. Janet will be back in the office on January Tuesday 5.

Please remember that the office is closed to "in-person" visits.

Email ([chadmin@uce.ca](mailto:chadmin@uce.ca)) or phone (780-454-8073) to reach the office.

## A Special COVID-19 Message

Dear Ones,

As we witness a rise in COVID-19 infections, hospitalizations, and deaths, the Alberta government continues to add additional restrictions to our ability to gather in public and private. The most recent prohibition on “indoor gatherings in private homes, public spaces or workplaces” has been deemed by the medical experts a necessary measure designed to slow down the spread of COVID-19 throughout our community.

As people who affirm and promote the worth and dignity of every person, the Board has had to make some difficult decisions in order to protect all of us, especially the most vulnerable among us, from the possibility of contracting COVID-19. So, as agreed back in August, the UCE Board reviewed its response to the COVID-19 pandemic. After much consideration, the Board decided that ***until June 2021, the UCE building will be closed to all worship services, congregational meetings, and casual renters “such that no activities will take place in the building apart from staff and essential maintenance.”*** The Board’s decision is consistent with the decisions of many Unitarian churches throughout Canada.

Without doubt, the lack of in person contact with each other is dampening our spirits, threatening our senses of self-worth, and making it harder and harder for us to feel connected and to find meaning in our lives. “*That’s not fair,*” you decry. We agree. “I depend on my UCE community of caring, committed, and simpatico people to keep balance in my life,” you argue. We know -- Us, too. “I fear for my health and my family’s health. I’m worried about my financial situation and the effect of COVID-19 on our economy. I’m not eating or sleeping well. I’m mentally, emotionally, and physically exhausted,” you lament. We hear you and we are suffering, as well. So now what?

So, now, we commit to living into our congregational mission: *to be a congregation openly and honestly searching, learning, connecting, and serving.* We, your leadership, are searching for ways to support you and help you feel connected to our community again. Come, tell us how you are doing; what you are missing; how you are coping; and how our UCE community can help. Suggest to us ways, within our current constraints, that we can support each other -- maybe there’s a book discussion you would like to lead; maybe you would like to send cards to people who have shared their joys and sorrows; maybe you would like to sponsor a topical discussion group, maybe you would like to be part of a compassionate check-in ministry, maybe you would like to give cooking classes to youngsters on Zoom. With so many members and friends, the possibilities are endless.

We look forward with great anticipation to our conversation after our worship service this **Sunday, November 29, 2020 (approximately 11:30am-12:30pm)** using the same link as we use for the Sunday service.

Blessed Be,

Karen Bilida (President, UCE Board)

Rev. Lee Anne Washington (Interim Minister)

## Do YOUR part to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

- ✓ Stay home as much as possible
- ✓ Wash/sanitize your hands frequently
- ✓ Wear a mask
- ✓ Maintain physical distance (even when wearing a mask)
- ✓ Limit gatherings to your household only

Due the huge increase in COVID-19 cases in Alberta the Alberta Government has implemented new restrictions. **COVID-19: A state of public health emergency was declared on November 24. New mandatory measures to stop the spike in cases are in effect**  
<https://www.alberta.ca/enhanced-public-health-measures.aspx>

### *Mandatory restriction — Effective Nov. 27*

Restaurants, bars, pubs and lounges will be **open with restrictions** if they follow all public health guidance in place including:

- Maximum of 6 people from the same immediate household at a table and no movement between tables.
  - People who live alone can meet with up to 2 non-household contacts as long as they're the same two throughout the duration of these restrictions

Albertans are encouraged to use take out, delivery, drive-thru and curbside pick-up options.

Additional inspections will occur to verify that public health measures are being followed.

Establishments that are non compliant may face orders and fines.

City Council has renewed the bylaw requiring the use of face coverings in all indoor places and public vehicles until December 31, 2021.

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/News-Release---City-renews-mask-bylaw-until-December-31--2021.html?soid=1127191170163&aid=1nAVoVThWK8>

## Let's Keep Connecting

- 🔗 [Facebook Group](https://www.facebook.com/groups/unitarianuce) - [uce.ca/FBgroup](https://www.facebook.com/groups/unitarianuce)
- 🔗 [Facebook Page](https://www.facebook.com/unitarianuce) - [uce.ca/FBpage](https://www.facebook.com/unitarianuce)
- 🔗 [Twitter](https://twitter.com/UnitarianUCE) - <https://twitter.com/UnitarianUCE>
- 🔗 [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/unitarianuce) [uce.ca/instagram](https://www.instagram.com/unitarianuce)
- 🔗 [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...) - [uce.ca/youtube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)
- 🔗 [Podcast](https://www.uce.ca/podcast) - [uce.ca/podcast](https://www.uce.ca/podcast)





**Please click here to watch the stories read online,**

If you would like to volunteer to read a story please contact DRE Will Adair.

### **Grandmothers for Grandmothers**



Many among us are Supporters of the Stephen Lewis Grandmothers for Grandmothers in Africa. The Edmonton branch of Grandmothers continues its fund raising with their new online shop. It can be accessed at: [edmgrandmothers.org](http://edmgrandmothers.org) then 'click' on STORE.

Do think of doing your holiday shopping via such a wonderful endeavour. Edwina Madill...a 'grand-other'



Chalice Snowflake instructions

<https://www.uua.org/worship/words/image/chalice-snowflake-instructions>



**Canadian Unitarian Council (CUC)**



The CUC is compiling a list of holiday services and events from around Canadian congregations. Please watch online for more updates. <https://cuc.ca/events-calendar/>



The National Sunday Service from November 15 on the theme of "Sustaining Our Light" is now up on YouTube and SoundCloud. There were over 665 viewers on Zoom; I deeply apologize to those who were waiting for the live YouTube stream, especially the congregations who had planned to have this for their regular Sunday service, and I'm glad that most were able to join us on Zoom.

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

<https://youtu.be/8B3gB-Agzjo>

My huge thanks to the team who contributed and put this together. Enjoy!

Vyda Ng, Executive Director, Canadian Unitarian Council | Conseil unitarien du Canada



### QUUest Survey

For nearly 200 years our faith has provided a welcoming place for seekers to bring their questions, for the open-hearted to bring their concerns and for those committed to justice to do their work. In recognition of this milestone, the CUC Board initiated a task force to embark on a visioning exercise to imagine who we are and who we can be as a faith movement entering into our third century together. **The survey closes December 15, 2020**

To read more, please visit <https://cuc.ca/congregations-leaders/quuest/>.



# December 2020

## Interfaith:

- [Advent](#) (Christian) Nov. 29 -Dec. 24, 2020 (more [here](#) and [here](#))
- [Bodhi Day](#) (Buddha's Enlightenment) - [Dec. 8](#) (more [here](#))
- [Chalica](#) (UU) Dec. 7 - Dec. 13 (more [here](#))
- Hanukkah (Jewish) - Dec. 11, 2020, begins on the evening of the 10 (more [here](#) and [here](#))
- [Yule](#), Solstice (Pagan/Wiccan) - Dec. 21
- Christmas Eve - Dec. 24, 2020 (Thursday)
- Christmas Day - Dec. 25, 2020 (Friday)
- [Holy Innocents Day](#) (Christian) - Dec. 28
- [Watch Night/Freedom's Eve](#) (Christian) - Dec. 31
- Kwanzaa - Dec. 26 - Jan. 1 (more [here](#) and [here](#))

## National & Cultural:

- [Seasonal Depression Awareness Month](#)
- [World AIDS Day](#) - Dec. 1 (more [here](#))
- International Day of [Persons with Disabilities](#) - Dec. 3
- Human Rights Day - Dec 10th
- [Boxing Day](#) Dec. 26 (more [here](#))

## For Fun and On the Fringe:

- [Nobel Prize Day](#) - Dec 10
- How [the Grinch](#) Stole Christmas shown for first time - Dec 18, 1966
- [Festivus](#) for the [rest of us](#) – Dec 23

\*\*\*links compiled by [Soul Matters Sharing Circle](#)



The 35th-anniversary edition of the Multifaith Calendar is available for sale. Rev. Audrey has 10 of them at 16\$ each. Those of you who buy them every year, know how beautiful the original artwork is that illustrates each month. Proceeds from the calendars go to fund projects of the Edmonton Interfaith Centre, one of the sponsors of the annual Genocide Memorial Service.

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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E-MAIL [chadmin@uce.ca](mailto:chadmin@uce.ca) WEB PAGE [www.uce.ca](http://www.uce.ca)**

Newsletter Submission Deadline is the 20<sup>th</sup> of every month.  
Please send your article to [chadmin@uce.ca](mailto:chadmin@uce.ca)

**People Finder**

President: Karen Bilida <a href="mailto:Unitarian.edmonton@yahoo.ca">Unitarian.edmonton@yahoo.ca</a>	780-807-6380
UCE Board: <a href="mailto:board@uce.ca">board@uce.ca</a>	
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