



## Contents

UCE AGM	2
Alexander and Potter Awards	2
Minister's Message	3
The Principles and Sources	4
Land Acknowledgement	4
Sunday Services	5
Call Us Again Song	6
Tell Me a Story	6
Seeking Worship Readers	6
UCE Leadership Cttee Rpt	7
Next Board Meeting	7
The April Sing-A-Long	7
Our Answers to ITT Questions	8
Nurturing UCE's Tree of Life	9
Shared History at UCE	10
Sunday Zoom Support	12
Tuney Tuesday	13
Lunch and Learn	13
UCE Lunch Bunch	13
Youth Connections	14
CUC Online Events	15
2021 CUC AGM	15
Gatherings of UU Women	16
Calendar Connections	17
People Finder	18

The Unitarian Church of Edmonton (UCE) 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 a full range of theological perspectives -- from theism to atheism -- as well as a full range of spiritual traditions and practices. As a Unitarian Universalist (UU) congregation, we strive to be a community where everyone is able to fully participate, regardless of gender, gender expression, race, colour, ethnic or national origin, religion, sexual/affective orientation, age, class, physical character or disability.

### **UCE is a congregation openly and honestly:**

- ☉ Searching for spiritual meaning in our lives
- ☉ Learning to understand ourselves and others
- ☉ Connecting to build fair, just, caring communities
- ☉ Serving each other and our communities near and far



### **As Canadian Unitarian Universalists, we aspire to be:**

**Deeply Connected:** We strive to foster healthy relationships amongst and within UU communities, with the broader world and with all life

**Radically Inclusive:** We strive to create hospitable, diverse, multi-generational communities

**Actively Engaged:** We strive to work joyfully for a just and compassionate society, experimenting with new forms of community.

**Theologically Alive:** We seek to be ever-evolving in our understanding, open to new knowledge.

**Spiritually Grounded:** We seek transformation through personal spiritual experiences and shared ritual.

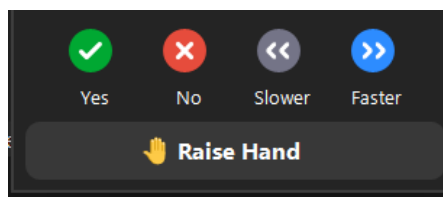
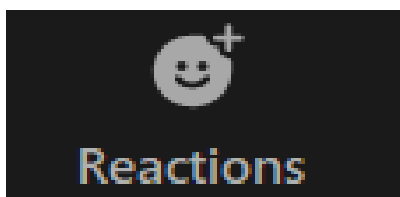
## **Unitarian Church of Edmonton (UCE) Annual General Meeting (AGM) is being held online again this year.**

The AGM was a great success last year and we expect a great turn out again this year. Please join us after the Sunday May 2, 2021 zoom service (after a quick break) for our Annual General Meeting.

It is a privilege for all members to be able to put the UU Principle of "The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process" into work and we look forward to our participation together. All are welcome to attend but only members who have been members for at least 60 days may vote.

You will need to know how to raise your electronic hand in Zoom.  
If you join by phone, dial \*9 to raise your hand.

If you sign in online, please make sure you have a look for reactions.



Please make sure you update your zoom version:

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362233-Upgrade-update-to-the-latest-version>

## **For Leadership Committee Report, see [page 7](#)**

### **Alexander and Potter Awards 2021**

As you know, this has been an unusual year. Unfortunately, we will not be having a membership dinner this church year and we will not be awarding the Alexander or Potter awards this church year either. I know that we look forward to when we can gather together in person and we will have so many reasons to celebrate. Please continue to read the newsletter and e-mails for updates.

## Minister's Message

Dear Ones,

The theme for May is "Story." From time immemorial, human beings have told stories as a way to preserve history, to transmit life lessons, and to escape reality. Whether we realize it or not, storytelling is an integral part of our everyday experience. Storytelling occurs in the anecdotes we tell our friends, the books we read, the movies we watch, and the advertisements we see. Stories are how we make sense of the world in which we live.



There is nothing more powerful than the stories we tell ourselves. All day long we create a narrative about our experiences. Those narratives include judgments about ourselves, about other people, and about our circumstances. They are not mere descriptions of object reality. They are, rather, our interpretation of events as we see them. They are just one person's perspective -- ours. These stories that we tell ourselves are full of judgements that we make about ourselves often in the extreme -- either too harshly or too leniently. The same set of objective facts can give rise to very different stories -- it all depends on what details we focus on and what significance we give them.

As an example, you have been working tirelessly for weeks helping low income families who have lost their breadwinner to COVID-19 find the help they need -- financial resources, psychological and emotional counseling, childcare arrangements, etc. Not having attended to the details of your own life -- paying bills, spiritual practices, physical exercise -- you might be telling yourself a story about your procrastinating, your lack of discipline, and your failure to stick to a workout routine. Someone *not you* might look at the same set of circumstances and tell a story about how you have contributed so much to help the community by being flexible and accessible while sympathetically noting your need for some rest and relaxation.

One of the benefits of belonging to a faith community, such as the Unitarian Church of Edmonton, is that we have the opportunity to gain perspective on the stories we tell ourselves. Rev. Scott Tayler reminds us that:

We gather as a house of stories.  
As we learn of those who have gone  
before, the way in front of us becomes  
more clear.

As we weave together the tales of who  
we are, our loneliness lessens and the  
web of our oneness is revealed.

As we listen deeply in those times of  
tender trust,

we descend into the longings and  
learnings, hopes and fears, of the  
humanity we share.

Beneath the wells from which we drink,  
there is a deeper well that feeds them all.

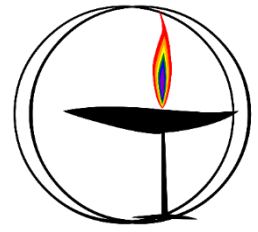
Come, let us tell each other tales of our  
thirst.

Let us drink from the stories that sustain  
us all.

Blessings, Rev. Lee Anne  
780-455-9797

## The Principles and Sources of our Religious Faith

UU congregations affirm and promote seven principles, which we hold as strong values and moral guides. As Rev. Barbara Wells ten Hove explains, “The principles are not dogma or doctrine, but rather a guide for those of us who choose to join and participate in UU religious communities.”



### Our Seven Principles

- ⊕ The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- ⊕ Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations;
- ⊕ Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- ⊕ A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- ⊕ The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
- ⊕ The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
- ⊕ Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

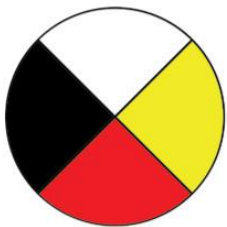
We live out these principles within a “living tradition” of wisdom and spirituality, drawn from such diverse sources as science, poetry, scripture, and personal experience.

### Our Six Sources

- ⊕ Direct experience of that transcending mystery and wonder, affirmed in all cultures, which moves us to a renewal of the spirit and an openness to the forces which create and uphold life;
- ⊕ Words and deeds of prophetic people which challenge us to confront powers and structures of evil with justice, compassion, and the transforming power of love;
- ⊕ Wisdom from the world’s religions which inspires us in our ethical and spiritual life;
- ⊕ Jewish and Christian teachings which call us to respond to God’s love by loving our neighbours as ourselves;
- ⊕ Humanist teachings which counsel us to heed the guidance of reason and the results of science, and warn us against idolatries of the mind and spirit;
- ⊕ Spiritual teachings of Earth-centred traditions which celebrate the sacred circle of life and instruct us to live in harmony with the rhythms of nature.
- ⊕ Grateful for the religious pluralism which enriches and ennobles our faith, we are inspired to deepen our understanding and expand our vision. As free congregations we enter into this covenant, promising to one another our mutual trust and support.

### Land Acknowledgement

In accordance with our principles, we acknowledge with gratitude that we gather 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.





## May's Theme is "Story"

**May 2**

### *May Day*

As the first hint of green begins to peek through the barren ground, as that little sprig grows into a healthy stem, as that stem grows into a stalk and forms a bud, as that bud slowly opens with each new day, let us be, like that first hint of green, renewed by the warm of the sun's rays and ready to emerge with a new energy, ready to face the day. This morning we also celebrate the creation of a new hymn by Rev. Audrey Brooks (text) and Gordon Ritchie (music). Service Leaders: Karen Mills & Gordon Ritchie

**May 9**

### *Memories of Our Mothers*

There are as many variations of the mother and child relationship as there are mothers and children. Not all of those relationships reflect the Norman Rockwell vision of motherhood. Regardless, most of us have benefited at some point in our lives from an adult's maternal interest in our well-being. Join in this traditional Mother's Day service honoring those who have stood in the place of "mother" in our lives.

**May 16**

### *CUC National Service -- NEW TIME -- 11:00 am MT*

As the cycles of the seasons teach us the gifts of the dark as well as the light, we still need energy -- a spark -- to fuel living into our aspirations and values no matter the season, the struggle, or the celebration. Join us in celebrating how our UU faith and our connections are crucial to sustaining and amplifying that spark. The Sunday service will be live-streamed on Zoom at <http://bit.ly/NationalWorshipMay16> - Meeting ID: 885 0018 9706 Passcode: 595025. And, it will be closed captioned, and on the [CUC's YouTube Channel](https://sites.google.com/cuc.ca/cucconference2021/conference/worship). <https://sites.google.com/cuc.ca/cucconference2021/conference/worship>

**May 23**

### *Tell Me A Story*

Just as each of us has a life story, so does UCE. During the service we will explore how individual stories entwine with each other to create a larger narrative. After the service, you are invited to join in guided small groups to share your recent story -- reflecting upon Rev. Brian's retirement, on the pandemic, and on your hopes and dreams for UCE.

**May 30**

### *The Human Life Equation*

Have you ever wondered whether the Bible really has something relevant to add to the abortion debate? Rev. Lee Anne declares that yes, it does, but not what we have been led to believe. Forget what you think you know about the Bible and abortion. Rev. Lee Anne will introduce us to the human life equation--the Bible's understanding of when human life begins. She takes us through the many verses of the Bible that support the notion that human life begins at birth. She also shows that the human life equation is consistent with modern medicine's understanding of the physiological change a fetus undergoes in order to survive as a newborn.

**Link for all Sunday Services, except the  
CUC National Service:**

**Join Zoom Meeting:** <https://bit.ly/3jBOnwi>  
**Meeting ID: 200 338 874 +1 587 328 1099**



### **Sunday Services Waiting Room.**

Our services start at 10:30 am. We begin admitting people at 10:15am. Until then, you will be placed in our waiting room.



## Call Us Again, words by Audrey Brooks, music by Gordon Ritchie

### Refrain

Call us again. Call us again into your arms, and back to the dance of life.

### Verse 1

I'll sing for you Mother Earth a verdant bountiful womb.  
The sacred doorway to life, the giver of all that we are.

### Refrain

### Verse 2

I'll sing to you Mother Earth in gratitude for your gifts;  
The forest, water and air, and creatures both great and small.

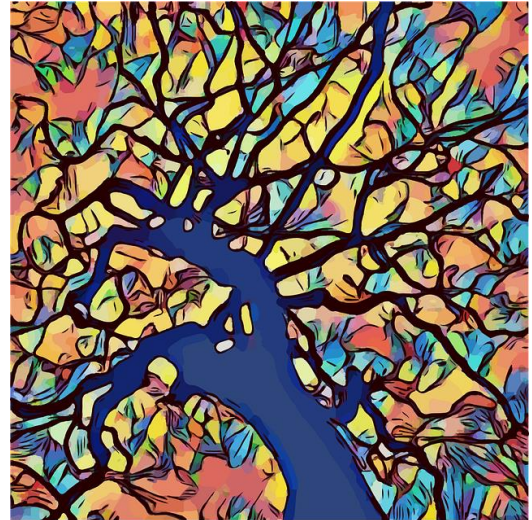
### Refrain

### Verse 3

Sad Mother Earth. Patient One. We have forgotten your love.  
Your depth, your breath and your truth will hold us for evermore.

### Refrain

Call us again. Call us again into your arms, and back to the dance of life.  
And back to the dance of life.

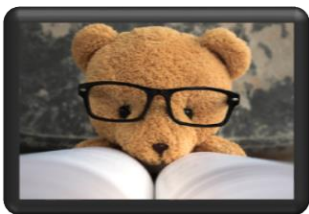


## Tell Me a Story Small Group Discussions

On Sunday, May 23, the Interim Transition Team (ITT) invites you to join them for facilitated small group discussions immediately following the service. When a long-term minister retires, different people have different responses. Part of the standard interim work involves becoming aware of and deeply listening to those whose experiences differ from your own. **Bring your coffee and/or your lunch and settle in for an hour of sharing and connecting.**



## Seeking Worship Readers



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>.

# Unitarian Church of Edmonton Leadership Committee Report, April 2021

## Candidates for Board:

President: Mike Keast

Vice-President: Brandie Moller-Reid

Treasurer: Andrew Mills

Trustees to serve a two-year term each: Marilyn Gaa; Susan Ruttan

Trustee to serve the second year of vacant Trustee position: Dave Hagel

- Karen Bilida will move into the Immediate Past President position in the 2021-22 church year.
- Gloria Krenbrenk will continue as Secretary for 2021-22.
- Jennifer Askey will continue as Trustee for 2021-22.

Two members of the Leadership Committee – Erin Thackeray and Rosemary Falconer, were elected in 2019 to serve a two-year term each, with those terms ending in 2021.

- Erin is willing to let her name stand for re-election for the 2021-23 term.
- Rosemary has served six consecutive years on the Leadership Committee, and has reached the maximum service as set out in the Bylaws.
- The Leadership Committee is still seeking a nominee to serve for the 2021-22 church year

Beth Jenkins and Donna Hamar are continuing members on the Leadership committee for 2021-22.

There will not be an election for the Ministerial Relations Committee this year.

## Next Board Meeting is Wednesday May 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:15pm

Please email [Board@uce.ca](mailto:Board@uce.ca) by May 8<sup>th</sup> if you would like to add anything to the agenda or attend the meeting. For the latest Board Minutes please visit:

<https://www.uce.ca/agm-minutes-reports-board-meeting-minutes/>

Please watch your email for any updates.



## The Sing-A-Long on April 22<sup>nd</sup> was a huge success!

Some sang, some listened, all seemed to have a great time! Thank you so much to Jan M. for picking all the music and hosting and thanks to Karen B for creating and running the slides.

You can host a sing-a-long or book club or yoga class ... your imagination is the only limit! Please contact Karen Bilida on how to book a time.

## **Our Answers to Interim Transition Team's Additional Questions**

### **What is Missing Here at UCE?**



From the 63 comments received from the chat rooms it becomes very apparent we miss being together. There is a hunger for interpersonal contact, the direct feeling of support, and meaningful interaction between the generations. We miss the energy of in-person interactions and the physical space. The choir is needed.

Good adult programs, small groups, adult religious exploration, deep discussions, greater exploration of philosophical questions, more

heart-led spirituality vs cerebral based material emerges. Compassion in actual deed, meditation and activities for younger people are desired.

Some indicated the lack of a shared purpose, a need to understand key priorities and collective identity. An assessment of neighborhood needs was mentioned.

Zoom is appreciated and there is hope it will also be continued once we return to our building for regular use.

### **What Stands in the Way of UCE Becoming UCE?**

A number of responses mentioned the lack of: a clear, shared vision or purpose; a lack of coordinated leadership; of shared priorities and broad participation. There was some mention of more training for volunteers and more follow up needed.

Concern regarding welcoming in theory but not attracting much diversity in terms of age, gender, cultural background or race. The following were also mentioned:

- The Youth have not been involved.
- Need more ways to engage members in conversations on meaningful topics.
- Lack of adult religious education.
- Complacency
- Too little community outreach.
- Committee structure review needed.

39 responses which clearly indicate a real concern to achieve a more vibrant community. There is uneasiness about burnout and yet an increased desire for a more total involvement of all in going forward.

### **What keeps You Here?**

33 responses indicated a strong sense of community. Some express their comfort in sharing common values. Many indicated that which had attracted them initially keeps them here. Friendship with those who share the same values and provides support. Freedom to speak one's own belief and find acceptance. Authentic connections keep some here.

The choir plays a major role for many. The opportunity to work and build the kind of church to which one wants to belong. A safe place to unwind. For some the capability to shift pattern, i.e., from building to zoom services.

M. Ruth Patrick



## Nurturing UCE's Tree of Life Answers

### Question 1: What has the Unitarian Church of Edmonton meant to you?

#### Answers:

- I am exposed to different viewpoints, which spurs me to reconsider my own views.
- Friendships.
- I get fresh ideas, new understanding of older ideas.
- I and my parents have benefited so much from the community of people that are the UCE.
- Community connection.
- This is my fourth week here. I still well up with emotion when, at the start of service, I hear the phrase "we welcome you, the whole of you."
- Our Friday Walkers group both virtually and outside gatherings are important to many of us.
- A physical location that feels familiar and life-giving, a course of friendship and support, place where I can give back, a source of spiritual renewal.
- I am transformed by the members of our beloved community who surprise me every day with ideas and opportunities.
- A reaffirmation each time we meet, that there is so much goodness and caring in my world.
- I've been a member of this church for over 20 years, and I still well up with emotion when, at the start of service, I hear the phrase "we welcome you, the whole of you."
- This community gives me a sense of purpose, of family, and of belonging. It gives me an opportunity to be of service in a way that lives out my values.
- Comrades in arms on matters of social justice.

### Question 2: What interests do you have; what talents might you share; what issues are close to your heart; what actions can you take to help us make a positive difference in the world?

#### Answers:

- I want to make [people] welcome in our spiritual family.
- I am a good reader and look forward to an opportunity to read at future services.
- A way to remember family tradition.
- I like to participate in the choir and appreciate the music of the services. Thanks to those who arranged for and joined in the zoom choir sing along last Thursday.
- I appreciate sharing the community and the wonderful ideas to move forward in my spiritual journey.
- After years of being quite involved in the 70s, I did not attend for many years, recently returning for specific Sundays. My interest has been stimulation of speakers, presentations and events that give me new ideas or something to look up or think about during the following week.
- I was reluctant to join Zoom services, but I am enjoying seeing the faces of my UCE friends again. We all continue in new ways to connect and serve. In particular, Raging Grannies (most are coincidentally Unitarians) persevere.
- treasure the opportunity to create a space for our Youth to connect with each other, with their own spirituality, and with the wider community - both within and outside of the church.
- Compassion and joy are what I find at UCE and what I hope I share in my other relationships.
- The Child Haven committee has met and is planning an event in June. A way to help the desperate situation in India!

## Shared History at UCE



After our service on Sunday, April 25th, we moved decade by decade through the history of UCE. Led by Louise Charach and Ruth Patrick, heard the remembrances of several of our members and invited you to share your own in the Zoom chat box. These are the remembrances that were shared.

### Remembrances from 50's, 60's, and 70's

- Children and Youth were very involved at UCE and in YRUU;
- Active singles group for which Ernie Korchinsky acted as the MC for many;
- Attending church school, helping with youth group, billeting draft dodgers;
- UU Action dinners -- yummy meals and hilarious actions;
- Spending considerable time planning and financing new congregation -- loans were made and paid back;
- Congregational activities like trail rides, ski trips, hosted by Inge Hess;
- The portable bar built by Morley Calenson;
- Stan Calder playing piano for New Year's parties; and
- Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners and entertainment.

### Remembrances from the 1980s

- Unicircle programs for discussion and friendship which provided child care one morning a week;
- Teaching Haunting House for 5-7 year olds;
- Diversity conference held in our old church, celebrating GLBTQ+ people;
- Monthly meetings of the Prime Timers;
- Serving on board in the early 80s;
- Les Gue's work on issues related to Tolerance and Understanding;
- Active social justice committee; and
- Our Interim minister, Fern Stanley.

## Remembrances from the 1990s

- Rev. Audrey returned from Bangor Theological Seminary, in Bangor, Maine, and became part of the pastoral Care team at UCE;
- Working on the design of the sanctuary;
- Refinishing our chairs --led by Stella, many worker bees reupholstered, stripped and refinished them;
- UCE held its first Blue Christmas service followed by a supper of soup, bread and pies -- it was attended by many people who were visitors for the first time, and some returned to attend Sunday services;
- Blaise and Bernie were very involved in organizing fundraising auctions with dinners;
- Raising money, key by key to buy our piano;
- Drudge work performed by many volunteers -- e.g., scraping the floor in a couple of bathrooms with scrapers and steel wool to get them clean enough to have the areas to build into decent bathrooms;
- Service auctions through the 1980s & 1990s — both fund-raisers and an entertaining evening;
- “No Talent” nights, plus wonderful singing talent such as Maria Jenkins, David Leonard, Jack Ratcliffe, and many others, some ongoing members of Choreal;is;
- Strong youth group was strong that made the coffee each Sunday, and kept the proceeds to send a youth to the UN;
- Coralie & John return after a couple of decades to discover that UCE feels like home;

And, Lynn Wolff shared a heart-touching remembrance that illustrates how important and life changing being a part of the UCE community can be:

I came to UCE on January 6, 1985. It was the first service given by Rev. Michael O’Kelly, interim minister. His topic was “Beginnings and Endings”. I had just done many of each, having moved from Ontario and started a new job, knowing no one in Edmonton. So I wept through the entire service. At the end of the service, a long-time member, Dr. Ed Holmes, took me out to lunch to cheer me up. He did a good job and we married 5 years later, Rev. John Marsh officiating.



## May's Zoom Support For Sunday Services

We are grateful that the following UCE members and friends will support our April Sunday services. Please consider joining this team. The roles are not difficult and you'll always have people to help you. Contact Karen Bilida [Unitarian.Edmonton@yahoo.ca](mailto:Unitarian.Edmonton@yahoo.ca) if you are interested. She can arrange in person and video training.

	Slide Creator & Sharing	Post Online	Recorder	Greeter	Breakout rooms	Backup or Trainee
May 2	Andrew Mills	Ruth Merriott	Lynn Wolff	Karen Bilida	Karen Bilida	
May 9	Ruth Merriott	Ruth Merriott	Lynn Wolff	Karen Bilida	Karen Bilida	
May 16	x	CUC	National	Service	x	
May 23	Andrew Mills			Susan Ruttan		
May 30	Karen Bilida	Karen Bilida	Karen Bilida	Susan Ruttan		

### GREETER

- Sign into the UCE zoom account before 10:00 am.
- Admit people from the waiting room. (allow tech time from 10-10:15am, if necessary)
- Create as “co-host” any people that will be speaking, sharing slides, or recording and other zoom volunteers.
- Mute all and let service begin.
- Watch chat in case of “disruptive” behavior.
- Admit people during service.

### BREAKOUT ROOM

- Monitor the CHAT messages
- At the end of the announcement slides, “automatically” set up the breakout rooms
- 25 minutes after breakout rooms have begun, send a note to all saying the breakouts will end in five minutes. You can pass “host” duties (if you choose) to the minister or anybody that would like to stay longer or you can close the meeting to all.

### RECORDER

**Recording is the easiest job – as long as you have good internet connection and a computer that is able to store the files.**

- Get the Host to make you a Co-Host.
- Ensure that your screen is set up with side by side screen sharing and “speaker view”.
- The Record button is at the bottom of your Zoom screen.
- When the service starts, hit Record. When the announcement slides end, hit Stop.
- Upload the zoom service folder, with all of the files, to a Google Drive folder



## Tuney Tuesday Will be Taking a Break

Pauline Atwood will be hosting the **last Tuney Tuesday for the season on May 4<sup>th</sup> at 7pm**. 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... <http://bit.ly/TuesMus3mB8yeR> Meeting ID 956 5643 4070

Thank you, Pauline, for keeping UCE friends and members connected in a fun and meaningful way!



## Lunch and Learn



You are invited to join Rev. Lee Anne in an open Zoom meeting on Wednesdays from noon to 2pm. You will need the link and passcode found on the UCE calendar at [uce.ca](http://uce.ca). Link: <http://bit.ly/Lunch2WvWG3a>, Meeting ID: 984 8583 4810  
Passcode: 109413. Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/j/abQkoG8UD7>

## UCE Lunch Bunch

Unitarian Church of Edmonton invites you to join the UCE Lunch Bunch *via* Zoom on **Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:00 to 2:00**. Please drop in and out during the time period... sign in and see who shows up or make a lunch date with a friend.

Link: <http://bit.ly/Lunch2WvWG3a>

Meeting ID: 957 7757 4700, Passcode: 958419



**Please enjoy watching recordings of our Sunday Services again on YouTube or listen as a Podcast on SoundCloud.**

**Just click on the link and don't forget to subscribe while you are there.**



## Please join us in conversation on Social Media

- **Facebook Group:** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/41659071349/>
- **Facebook Page:** <https://www.facebook.com/UnitarianChurch/>
- **YouTube:** <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmpm5DXHKM7pRnnzcC75txQ>
- **SoundCloud:** <https://soundcloud.com/user-189401827>
- **Twitter:** <https://twitter.com/UnitarianUCE>
- **Instagram:** <https://www.instagram.com/unitarianuce/>

Please make sure that you continue to update your zoom account.

Zoom regularly provides new versions to release new features and fix bugs. We recommend upgrading to the latest version once it is available.

How to update zoom version: <https://support.zoom.us>



## Youth Connections

<b>1st Sunday</b> , Popcorn Theology 2:00-5:00 p.m. Calgary/Winnipeg <a href="https://tinyurl.com/y4dpseh3">https://tinyurl.com/y4dpseh3</a>	<b>3rd Sunday</b> , Super-Group 4:00-5:00 MT Saskatoon Zoom link: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/ybeehjn6">https://tinyurl.com/ybeehjn6</a>
<b>2nd Sunday</b> , A Chorus of Faiths 2:00-3:00 MT Calgary Zoom link: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/y4dpseh3">https://tinyurl.com/y4dpseh3</a>	<b>4th Sunday</b> Religions 2:00-3:00 MT Calgary Zoom link: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/y4dpseh3">https://tinyurl.com/y4dpseh3</a>
<b>Thursdays</b> Cosmic Connections 7:00 - ? MT Westwood Discord: <a href="https://discord.gg/jNNCnCy">https://discord.gg/jNNCnCy</a>	

Even though we cannot be physically together at this time and are not fundraising for other charities within the walls of our church building we hope you will visit our Charity of the Month's website ..... YOUTH EMPOWERMENT & SUPPORT SERVICES (YESS), Edmonton <https://yess.org/> Based in Edmonton, Youth Empowerment and Support Services (YESS) provides immediate and low-barrier overnight and day shelter, temporary supportive housing, and individualized wrap-around supports for young people aged 15–24. They work collaboratively within a network of care focused on the prevention of youth homelessness by providing youth with the necessary supports to stabilize their housing, improve their wellbeing, build life skills, connect with community, and avoid re-entry into homelessness.





## Canadian Unitarian Council (CUC)

For a complete list of events please go to <https://cuc.ca/events/>

### **Shining Lights Award Webinar: Canadian UU Groups Keeping Our Lights Alive!**

Saturday, May 1, 11 am MT

More information is available

at <https://cuc.ca/events/shining-lights-award-webinar-2021/1619874000/1619881200/>

### **CUC Annual General Meeting 2021**

Saturday, May 8, 11:00 am MT

More information is available

at <https://cuc.ca/events/agm-2021/1620478800/1620491400/>

### **Connect and Deepen, Virtual Gathering**

Sunday May 9 & 23, 2 pm MT

For more information and to register:

<https://cuc.ca/events/connect-deepen-feb-april-2020/1620576000/1620581400/>

### **National Conference 2021**

May 14 - 16, 2021

All program, worship and

registration information is available on the [CUC Conference site](#). Registration is open until May 9 and sliding scale fees start at \$5.

### **Elder's Circle with Stephen Paquette**

Wednesday, May 19, 5:00 pm MT

More information is available

at <https://cuc.ca/events/elders-circle-with-stephen-paquette-may-19/1621450800/1621456200/>

## **2021 CUC Annual General Meeting (AGM)**

[CUC National Conference website](#)

[Registration: March 15 – May 9](#)



Each year, the Canadian Unitarian Council holds its [Annual General Meeting](#) to elect members for the CUC's Board of Trustees, vote on resolutions, and to attend to the business of the Council. The CUC's member congregations send selected delegates from among their own membership to represent their congregations and to vote on business matters.

## Tuesday Global Gatherings of UU Women



Unitarian Universalist women from around the world for the past year have been joining a gathering on Zoom to show solidarity and support for each other during the Covid-19 pandemic. These meetings of global sisterhood are continuing on **the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month.**

More than 30 women have regularly logged on to this cross-continental gathering, creating on computer screens a gallery of women's faces from Australia, Japan, India, Bolivia, Uganda, several European countries and the United States and Canada.

"At first, though I didn't know most of the women, I appreciated having the connection in difficult time. As the faces started to seem familiar I looked forward to talking to some of the same women and meeting new ones," says EUU member Gevene Hertz who has regularly joined from Denmark.

The meetings are **hosted by the International Convocation of Unitarian Universalist Women, or IWC**, an association that supports programs to empower women and girls around the world.

A line from a poem offered by Rev. Audrey Brooks in Canada declares that "there can be no isolation if words are shared." And that's what these meetings are all about.

At each gathering a volunteer chooses a topic for discussion and the participants are divided into breakout rooms to share thoughts and feelings in a small group of four or five women.

**From East Africa** Sylvie Nyiramana of Uganda perhaps has best summed up the spirit of these Tuesday gatherings: "**I am always excited and happy to meet my Sisters around the world.**"

Come join this international UU sisterhood. Request information and the link to the meeting (next one on April 27) at this email address: [admin@icuuw.com](mailto:admin@icuuw.com).

**Membership and Mother's Day:** Please consider becoming a member of IWC to declare your support for women's empowerment. And as many countries celebrate Mother's Day in the month of May, consider purchasing a membership as a gift for mothers in your life or in memory of a beloved mother. Here is the link: [International Convocation of Unitarian Universalist Women \(intl womens convo.org\)](http://intl womens convo.org)



## Calendar Connections

*Click on the name on each event for more information or inspiration.*

### May 2021

#### Interfaith:

- [Beltane](#) (Wiccan) - May 1 (more [here](#))
- [Ramadan](#) (Islam) - April 12 - May 11, 2021 (more [here](#) and [here](#))
- [Ascension Day](#) (Christian) - May 13, 2021 (more [here](#))
- [Eid al Fitr](#) (Islam) - Begins May 12, 2021 (more [here](#) and [here](#))
- [Shavuot](#) (Jewish) - May 17, 2021, begins on the evening of the 16th (more [here](#) and [here](#))
- [Pentecost](#) (Christian) - May 23, 2021 (more [here](#))

#### Unitarian Universalist:

- Anniversary of [William Ellery Channing's Baltimore Sermon](#)
- [UUA Founding Day](#) (1961) - May 12
- [Emerson's birthday](#) - May 25 (1803)
- American Unitarian Association founded May 25 (1825)

#### National & Cultural:

- Jewish American Heritage Month
- Asian/ Pacific American Heritage Month
- [May Day](#)/International Workers Day - May 1 (more [here](#))
- [Cinco de Mayo](#) - May 5
- [Mother's Day](#) (US & Canada) - May 9, 2021
- First HIV/AIDS death in North America - May 15 (1969)
- [Brown v. Board of Education](#) - May 17 (1954)
- [Agender Pride Day](#) - May 19
- Birthday of [Malcolm X](#) (May 19, 1925)
- [Victoria Day](#) May 21
- Harvey Milk, gay rights activist, born - May 22, 1930
- [Pansexual and Panromantic Awareness and Visibility Day](#) - May 24

#### For Fun and On the Fringe:

- [World Press Freedom Day](#) - May 3
- [Star Wars Day](#) - May 4
- [World Laughter Day](#) - First Sunday in May
- Debut of "Rosie the Riveter" famous picture by Norman Rockwell, appears on the cover of Saturday Evening Post - May 29, 1943

**THE EDMONTON UNITARIAN IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY  
BY THE UNITARIAN CHURCH OF EDMONTON Vol. 62 No. 03**

10804 119 Street, Edmonton, AB T5H 3P2  
Phone 780-454-8073 Fax 780-452-1641  
Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 9:00 am to 2:00 pm  
E-MAIL [chadmin@uce.ca](mailto:chadmin@uce.ca) WEB PAGE [www.uce.ca](http://www.uce.ca)

**Writing for *The Edmonton Unitarian* Newsletter**

**Submitting Articles**

Please submit articles for *The Edmonton Unitarian* to Church Administrator, Janet Polkovsky, by email [chadmin@uce.ca](mailto:chadmin@uce.ca). If submitted by email, your text can either be attached as a Microsoft Word document (the preferred method) or set out in the body of the email. Please do not send an article as an image file. Deadlines are 10am on the 2<sup>nd</sup> to the last Friday of the month.

**Article Length**

Articles should be as short as possible consistent with conveying the necessary information. A general guideline is 75 to 200 words (you can use the word count feature in Microsoft Word to determine how long your article is). Submitted articles may be edited for clarity and conformity with these guidelines, or may be shortened to fit the space available. UCE staff and UCE Board of Trustee's columns are exceptions to this guideline.

**Content**

Articles should include who, what, when, where, why and how (as applicable). Articles must be directly related to UCE or UU. No advertisements for outside organizations, with the exception of not-for-profits approved by the Social Justice Committee or the UCE Board of Trustees. No advertisements for any products.

**People Finder**

UCE Board: [board@uce.ca](mailto:board@uce.ca)  
President – Karen Bilida  
Vice President – Brandie Moller-Reid  
Secretary – Gloria Krenbrenk  
Treasurer – Doug Eastwell  
Trustee – Jennifer Askey  
Past President – Karen Mills  
Reverend Lee Anne Washington: [uce.interim.minister@gmail.com](mailto:uce.interim.minister@gmail.com) 780-455-9797  
Church Office: Janet Polkovsky [chadmin@uce.ca](mailto:chadmin@uce.ca) 780-454-8073  
Head Teller: Edwina Madill 780-462-2089  
Canvas: Andrew Mills [andrew@misc.ca](mailto:andrew@misc.ca) 780-432-0826  
Communications: Karen Bilida [Unitarian.edmonton@yahoo.ca](mailto:Unitarian.edmonton@yahoo.ca) 780-807-6380  
Lay Chaplain, Marilyn Gaa [marilyngaa@telusplanet.net](mailto:marilyngaa@telusplanet.net) 780-432-7660  
Property Management: Mike Keast [mikekeast@shaw.ca](mailto:mikekeast@shaw.ca) 780-497-1303