

The Edmonton Unitarian, May 2022, Vol 63.4

May Theme: Nuturing Beauty



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May 2022 Services

May 1 A Branch of May Chorealis

Join Chorealis in their last service of this (very short!) season to celebrate spring and its budding, blossoming and burbling beauty. We'll also imagine how UCE will blossom as we make the first steps toward co-creating our mission statement.

May 8 Let Beauty In **Rev Morrison, Rev Brooks**

As human creatures we need to be surrounded by beauty, either in nature or in our indoor spaces. Please join the service as we celebrate beauty in music, ritual, and story.

Guest musicians: Mireille Rijavec, mezzo soprano and Roxanne Classen, piano.

May 15 CUC National Service

"Feelings come and go like clouds in a windy sky. Conscious breathing is my anchor", Thich Nhat Hanh, Stepping into Freedom: Rules of Monastic Practice for Novices.

We invite you to take a deep, deep breath. Join us Sunday, May 15 for a restorative service. Together, we will pause to reflect on the breath that sustains us.

This service will start at 11:00 am, and can be viewed at home or in the sanctuary with other congregants. Come early (at our regular time) for singing our favourite hymns and songs.

May 22 Future of Public Health Care

SJWG

The UCE's Social Justice Working Group presents Chris Galloway, executive director of Friend of Medicare, will speak on the topic: "Alberta's public health care isn't broken; it's being dismantled."

Shaping our (Beautiful) CommUUnity May 29 **Rev Morrison**

We celebrate community as we journey together, creating meaning, finding joy, as we build beautiful and safe community together.

For Attending Services Online

Services Begin at 10:30 am,

Join Zoom Meeting:

https://zoom.us/j/97779453314?pwd=VVB1VWF5ZUd0UGU1ZXQ5UGVxb0tXQT09

Meeting ID: 977 7945 3314 Passcode: 243251 +1 587 328 1099



Sunday Services Waiting Room. We begin admitting people at 10:15am. Until then, you will be placed in our waiting room.

Minister's Reflection: Nurturing Beauty



There is nothing more beautiful than someone who goes out of their way to make life beautiful for others. Mandy Hale

One of the best things about living in community is that we can complement one another. Not just in telling each other nice things, but each of us have unique and wonderful gifts that fit together with others. Some folks are great at looking at the details, others are more big picture people. Without all of us, we wouldn't have the capability to create community. We need the folks that are good at money stuff, data base, computers, flower arranging, making music, singing, reading, so many things. Just think of all the skills and gifts needed just to put on the worship services every Sunday.

We make each other beautiful by lending our gifts and talents to the community. When we volunteer or participate, we're actually saying: I want to take part in creating something beautiful. When we come to church on zoom or in person, we're letting others know that what we are doing together is valuable, it is worth our time to be together.

Here we are finally at spring, and during May we will be leaving winter behind and beginning to enjoy the beauty that spring brings. I don't know about you, but I am pretty excited about the idea that lilacs will bloom soon, and that the spring bulbs will soon be popping up out of the ground. What a miracle it is, watching the earth wake up with colour and beauty. I don't know about you, but I need to have beauty in my life for my spirit to be well and happy. We are so blessed to be living in the North Saskatchewan River valley, so many things year-round to feed our mind, body, and soul. As we approach this spring season, may you find joy and beauty, not just with your eyes, but with your spirit as well.

If you're looking for me in May, I'll be the one standing by a lilac taking in the amazing scent of spring

In peace, Rev. Rosemary

Shaping our CommUUnity



What will we be?

What will we do?

How will we do it?

Sound simple? These three questions are powerful and important and will guide us as together we develop UCE's Vision, Mission and Covenant. Our mission grows from our vision and the vision is built upon shared values that will be enshrined in our covenant. From these foundations, we set goals and objectives to direct our work. Important stuff!

Setting a revitalized direction is an area workshop participants identified as a major need to build a refreshed UCE.

We are building on your previous feedback and ideas and will incorporate your new and fresh ideas. There will be many ways to participate in setting our direction, in person and online. We will ask you to volunteer in several ways - to ask a question, to consolidate feedback, to respond to questions as a part of services and more. No need to wait for a formal request though - any time you want to share your thoughts via email, in person, or on Zoom, your comments will be saved.

To volunteer or comment, please email commUUnity@uce.ca or chadmin@uce.ca.

Submitted by GIT (the Governance Implementation Team) – Louise Charach, Lynne Turvey, Karen Mills, Audrey Brooks with Rev. Rosemary

Next Board Meeting

The UCE Board will meet May 18 at 7:15 pm. Please email board@uce.ca if you would like to attend.

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.



With Heavy Hearts



With Heavy Hearts we regret to announce the passing of Glenn Jenkins, son of Beth Jenkins, and former spouse of Maria Jenkins. Glenn, who was a longtime friend of our congregation passed away on February 16, 2022. Glenn's memorial will be held at the Unitarian Church of Edmonton on May 28, 2022 at 1:30 PM with Rev Rosemary Morrison officiating. Please text 780-267-2384 or 780-239-3567.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the Wagner Natural Area Society or the Unitarian Church of Edmonton would be gratefully received.

UCE Walkers

We meet at church at 10am on Fridays to carpool, or 10.30am at the walk site. If you carpool, please remember to pay the driver \$2 roundtrip. Bring a snack and a chair!

May 6	No scheduled walk. Walkers are helping with garage sale
May 13	No scheduled walk. Walkers are helping with garage sale
May 20	Government House
May 27	Dawson Park

May Sharing Our Abdundance

YOUTH EMPOWERMENT & SUPPORT SERVICES (YESS), Edmonton has been providing support, programs, housing and resources to youth who are lost, abandoned without a place to turn for over 35 years. Over 60,000 meals are served annually to this high needs group. YESS needs 6 million annually to stay up and running and one half of that amount comes from donations. https://yess.org/





Friday, May 13th from 8am-6pm and Saturday, May 14th from 8am-4pm Yes, it is getting closer! We welcome good usable items such as dishes, jewelry, collectibles, small appliances, tools, bikes, book shelves, books, pictures, linens, bikes, and toys. (No clothes, mattresses, old computers)

Finally, on May 1st, you can start to bring those treasures you have been sorting and storing for many months - (Or even years!)

Days of setup will be weekdays 10-4 pm May 2nd-7th and May 10th-12th. And for those only available on weekends, we welcome your help on Saturday May 7th (10-4)

There are signup sheets in the foyer to help with setting up as well as running the sale and cleanup. (Or contact Jan janjimmc@gmail.com or 780-453-2097 for your availability)

Besides being our major fundraiser, it is a great opportunity to work together once again!

Our chefs will be serving Jumbo hotdogs and drinks to workers and shoppers alike on both days of the sale from 11-2 pm

Bring us Your Cans, Bottles and Cartons



Empties are full of opportunity! We raise money from returnable bottles, tetra packs etc. donated by members. Drop your contribution in the second storage room (the single door) in Keeler Hall.

The UU Open Hearts Book Club



The UU Open Hearts Book Club wishes to continue learning about the impact of colonization and residential schools on the Indigenous Peoples of Canada. Therefore, the next three books we have chosen will be: An Indian in the Cabinet: Speaking Truth to Power by Jody Wilson-Raybould, Indian Horse by Richard Wagamese, and The Inconvenient Indian by Thomas King.

Please join this book club, it is open to all members and friends of UCE and participation will be on zoom for the rest of this

church year. The next book club will be held on May 25, 2022 at 7:30 and then again on June 29 at 7:30. We will break for the summer and continue on in September of 2022 until June of 2023. Join Zoom Meeting https://uuma.zoom.us/j/96190804829

Tuney Tuesdays



At Tuney Tuesday we take in your music suggestions, by way of YouTube videos, and play those videos. In between, we'll share thoughts about music and related reactions. You can find a link that connects to our Zoom session in the UCE calendar, the church bulletin, and on our website, uce.ca.

If you wish to find out more, need to be shown how to share a YouTube link, or have any other questions, email tunes@uce.ca and I will answer. My name is Alex

Polkovsky. I hope to see you on my screen soon.

Dragging Youth Series: May 28th

Dog Days Of Summer Fundraiser for Hope Lives Here Animal Rescue

Doors 5:30 pm show 6:00 pm

Cover \$5 suggested donation, hot dogs and other refreshments available
The UCE is proud and excited to share the wonderful news that Dragging Youth will return to
the Sanctuary beginning April 16. This event, coordinated by Kim Pizzey is a once a month
drag show, a place for all youth to perform relax enjoy find mentorship and friends in a
LGBTQ2S+ safe environment that fundraises for LGBTQ2S+ youth initiatives and other great
causes. For more information, please like their FaceBook page.

https://www.facebook.com/groups/448090438898145/



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.



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 updates to release new features and fix bugs. We recommend upgrading to the latest version once it is available. How to update Zoom: https://support.zoom.us

The Northwest Wilderness Society of the Unitarian Church (NWWS)



The Northwest Wilderness Society of the Unitarian Church (NWWS) would like to welcome the UCE to the NWWS Wilderness Camp on Kootenay Lake, BC.

We are hoping with changes in restrictions and increased mobility, that you will feel welcome to travel back to Wilderness Camp. We have a new newsletter and mailing platform, and want to welcome you to join our mailing list HERE. We send approximately four newsletters per year, with updates about

camp and the society. Our April Newsletter can be viewed <u>HERE</u>. We welcome you to share this information amongst our fellow Unitarians.

Those who are unfamiliar with Wilderness Camp can view our <u>website</u> for more information, and we gladly respond to questions.

With Warm Regards,
Shauna, Board Director
Northwest Wilderness Society of the Unitarian Church



Canadian Unitarian Council (CUC) Events

Information about all the upcoming CUC events can be found on our **Events page** on the **CUC website**.

Connect and Deepen May 8 and 22, 2:00 pm MT. More information and registration is available **here**.

Rising Together: UU Youth and Emerging Adults of Colour Saturday May 7, 2022, 2:30 pm MT (90 minutes) More information and registration is available here.

Gathered Here Monday, June 13. 6:00 MT (1.25 hours, ages 18 - 35) More information and registration is available here.

UU IBPOC Space Saturday, May 21,10:00 am MT (1.5 hours) Join on **Zoom**.

Célébrons ensemble le mercredi 18 mai 12h00 HR/MT (English note follows)
Célébrons ensemble est une célébration UU mensuelle en français pour les jeunes adultes (18 à 35 ans) canadiennes UU. Célébrons ensemble est semblable à Gathered Here. Il est important de noter que c'est un espace français inclusif. Ça veut dire que la célébration se déroule en français (et c'est important de respecter cela), mais que nous accueillons tout le monde, à tous les niveaux de français!

Pour plus d'information: https://cuc.ca/events/celebrons-ensemble-fevrier-2022/1645041600/1645046100/

Elder's Circle No 3: Sharon Jinkerson-Brass May 4, 2022, 5 pm MT (90 mins) More information and registration is available here.

CUC Annual General Meeting 2022 Saturday, May 14: Online via Zoom. 11:00 am MT The CUC's Annual General Meeting (AGM) takes place on May 14th. It's a time to attend to the business of the Council and a chance for congregations and their delegates and members to be involved in making decisions that affect our national faith community. The AGM is open to all and free of charge. Delegates and Observers must register by May 1. More information and registration is available here.



Who We Are

The Unitarian Church of Edmonton (UCE) is a liberal, multigenerational, 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/affectional 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.

The Principles and Sources of our Religious Faith

UU congregations affirm and promote eight 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 Eight 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.
- Individual and communal action that accountably dismantles racism and systemic barriers to full inclusion in ourselves and our institutions

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.



(Left to Right) Oksana Atwood, Janet Polkovsky, Rev Rosemary Morrison

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