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Belonging



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Sunday Services at the UCE

September 4

Celebrating Richard Wagamese

Susan Ruttan and friends

We share the beautiful meditations of Wagamese, the talented First Nations writer who died in 2016. Susan and Wagamese worked at the Calgary Herald in the late 1980s. This is the last of the 2022 Summer Series, speakers for the service will be on Zoom.

September 11 Homecoming: Calling Us Back to the Circle of Belonging Rev Rosemary Morrison

This is going to be a service you won't want to miss. We have so much to celebrate; our wonderful community, our new Mission, Vision, and Covenant statements, along with a time to experience the power and beauty of water communion.

September 18 We Are All Worthy of Love and Belonging

Rev Rosemary Morrison

Do you feel like you are loved and that you belong? Let's explore together how being loved and belonging to something greater than ourselves is what we all need and long for. How can we be more present to and accepting of one another? And even more importantly, how do we find the space to let those on the margins belong?

September 25 What Do You Show Up For? Rev Rosemary Morrison Karina Antonopoulos wrote, "Where you belong is where you choose to constantly show up."

What do you show up for? How do you support the communities you're involved with, especially UCE? What comes first, showing up and stepping up or feeling like you belong? Let's talk about what we need to belong, and how to support our beloved UCE Community.

Sharing Our Abundance September 2022



Canada's only national leadership retreat for lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans-identified, queer, questioning and allied youth. The camp is designed to help youth develop leadership skills and personal resiliency. Along with summer camps, the Institute for Sexual Minorities Studies

and Services (iSMSS) at the U of A has extended fYrefly to schools to help reduce discrimination against 2SLGBTQ+ youth. https://www.ualberta.ca/camp-fyrefly/index.html

Minister's Reflection

Welcome Back: You Belong Here



I am so looking forward to the upcoming church year. We will once again be using Soul Matters themes to guide our way. Last year, we only used the themes for our Sunday Services, however, this year the Religious Exploration program for children and youth will be using the themes, and new this year will be Soul Matters Small Groups (adult RE). I will be talking more about all these things on Sunday mornings, but for now, please consider how you would like to participate! You will love the Soul Matters Small Groups – deep connections are waiting, spiritual and personal growth are possible, and they can simply be fun! So worth the time and effort. These groups will start in October, sign up will begin September 11th.

I would like to thank everyone for the hard work that happened last spring to create UCE's new Mission, Vision, and Covenant statements. They will be unveiled at the September 11th service and afterward you will be given one more opportunity to share your feedback. The Governance Implementation Team and I believe that these statements reflect the thoughts, ideas, and wishes of the wider UCE community. Your work on them was invaluable!

I am so grateful to have had some time away. I traveled widely throughout our beautiful province, visiting and camping with family and friends in the Canadian Rockies. I also took time to rest and reflect, and I believe together we have the energy to continue moving UCE forward, building on the momentum we created last year.

I would like to let you know that Rev. Brian Kiely will be returning to UCE as a church member. He has been absent for two years now, and I have invited him to come back and participate. I look forward to having him with us.

As we begin our new church year together, please reflect on how you would like to be involved. What skills might you hone, what gifts will you offer? We have something wonderful, let's watch it grow!

In peace, Rev. Rosemary

UUs on Tap



Reverend Rosemary would like to gather you all, UUs and friends, at Brewsters in Unity Square at 6:30 pm on Monday, September 26.

Join her for an evening of food, beverages and conversation as we breathe new life into this beloved UCE tradition. Rev Rosemary chose the first location herself but is looking forward to experiencing new establishments and their gluten free offerings Mark the last Monday of every month as we go forward into the new church year.

Next Board Meeting

The UCE Board will meet September 21 at 7:15 pm. Please email board@uce.ca if you would like to attend.

You are always welcome to attend our board meetings. The board has recently approved a policy on guest attendance at board meetings. Check out those guidelines if you have any questions.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1n2ViwuWJYViPX7SVaS9Xi8AxTRQL05O2/view?usp=sharing

President's Letter

Welcome to another Church year, I'm looking forward to building on the momentum that was generated in the last year, momentum that carried over through the summer, giving us a head start as we hit the ground running. I look forward to starting our year off and solidifying our Mission statement, Vision statement and Covenant of Right Relations.

This summer we did a staycation in Edmonton, visiting the Zoo, Muttart Conservatory, and Fort Edmonton Park. All three venues have been going though renewals over the last few years, becoming bigger, better and more inclusive, which made me think about how UCE is currently going through a renewal. We are revamping processes, documenting polices, redefining who we are, and where we want to go, growing with our new Minister, updating our tech in the building, and working on becoming more inclusive. This summer we purchased and installed the Listen Everywhere system. This will broadcast our services over our WIFI to allow everyone in the church to use their own phone, or tablet, to listen to the services at a volume that is comfortable over your own headphones or hearing aids. Information will be posted at the church and in the newsletter on how to use it.

See you all in church

Mike

Religious Exploration



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.



Listen Everywhere



We have installed the Listen Everywhere service to replace our aging FM radios. This system will be in use for every service and available everywhere in the Church building and some of the parking lot.

To use the system, you will need to download and install the Listen Everywhere app from the google store, or apple store and you will need to connect to the UCE WIFI (password posted in church). Once you have done

both steps, just open the app and start the session. It allows you to listen using your own headset, wireless earbuds, or if your phone is connected to your hearing aids, you will hear it there. Just as if you are listening to a phone call.

We will have people around to help if you need it, please ask.

For iPhone users, click here

For Google Play Store, click here

Join the Tech Team!

It's time to start church services for the new year! Join us on the tech team to help us produce and record these services. We are looking for people to help with the sound board, cameras, production, slides, zoom greeting, and recording. We provide training. Contact Andrew at andrew@misc.ca for more information.



UCE Kitchen Update



Alberta Health Services has requested that commercial kitchens keep a user log. Whether you are using the kitchen to have a meeting or prepare food, please enter your group's details into the forms provided. (There is a wall mounted folder near the service counter). Additionally there is information regarding the correct dishwashing procedure for using the two sink method posted at each sink. Please be courteous to other building users and clean up after yourselves. The UCE kitchen has become quite busy over the summer and we hope that carries on into the rest of the year.

UCE in Action



Unitarians supporting women's reproductive rights rally at Alberta Legislature July 3, 2022

Saying Farewell

Inge Hess moved to Cochrane to be near her daughter. Some of us went to her home to say good-bye to her. Inge was so appreciative of it.



A Screen Near You

Very soon the UCE will be able to enjoy a freshly painted movie screen during its hybrid services and other events. Thank you to the painters, Andrew Mills, Robert Begg and Mike Keast (who is behind the camera). Also the BAGS volunteers for building the scaffolding and taking on this endeavour. They are using a special screen paint for projectors so it is something to be cherished!

Tuney Tuesdays No More! A new name for a new year:

Mozart to Metal to Everything In Between

Join our musical evenings on Tuesday night at 7 pm. Send in some YouTube links to tunes@uce.ca -- keep it to 2 or 3 tracks of under 5 minutes, please. Questions are welcome. My name is Alex and I will be your host. The first theme will be **Back To School**. Look for sessions to restart on Tuesday, September 13.



Dragging Youth Presents: Anime Magic



The UU Open Hearts Book Club



Please join Rev Rosemary for the first meeting of UCE's book club of the church year. It will be held on the forth Wednesday of every month with September's being held over Zoom on the 28th at 7 pm. There is no reading required for this gathering as Rev Rosemary would like to hear from you, so please have a few suggestions of books you think the book club would enjoy reading and discussing.

Join Zoom Meeting https://uuma.zoom.us/j/96190804829

CUC Events

Un-colonize Climate Justice: Kickoff Event Wednesday September 7, 2022 5:00 pm MT (2 hours) More information and registration is available **here**.

2022 Unicamp Young Adult Retreat Unicamp of Ontario, Honeywood, ON September 9, 6:00 pm – September 12, 1:00 pm. Registration deadline: Monday Sept 5 More information and registration is available here.

Rising Together: UU Youth and Emerging Adults of Colour Saturday September 10, 2:00 pm MT. Registration is ongoing. Please RSVP for each event to <u>risingtogether@cuc.ca</u> would be appreciated! More information and registration is available <u>here</u>.

Connect and Deepen 2nd and 4th Sundays each month, 2:00 pm MT More information and registration is available **here**.

Gathered Here Monday, September 19 6:00 pm MT https://bit.ly/GHMon22-3
Join other UU 18-35 year-olds on Zoom for sharing of joys and sorrows, deeper check-ins, prayerful reflections, and an opportunity to process the events of our lives with a spiritually grounded community. More information is available here (registration isn't required).

National Worship Sunday Service: Unsettled and Unafraid Sunday, September 25, 11:00 am MT. The CUC is hosting "Unsettled and Unafraid," a national service to honour The National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Join Elder-in-Residence Sharon Jinkerson Brass, Rev. Danielle Webber and folks from across the country as they reflect on what the process of un-colonizing looks and feels like to them.

This will be followed by a FREE 2.5-hour art therapy workshop facilitated by Rev. Karen Fraser Gitlitz and Ceremony Keeper Carey Jeanette Sinclair.



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;
- Bespect 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.

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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/

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