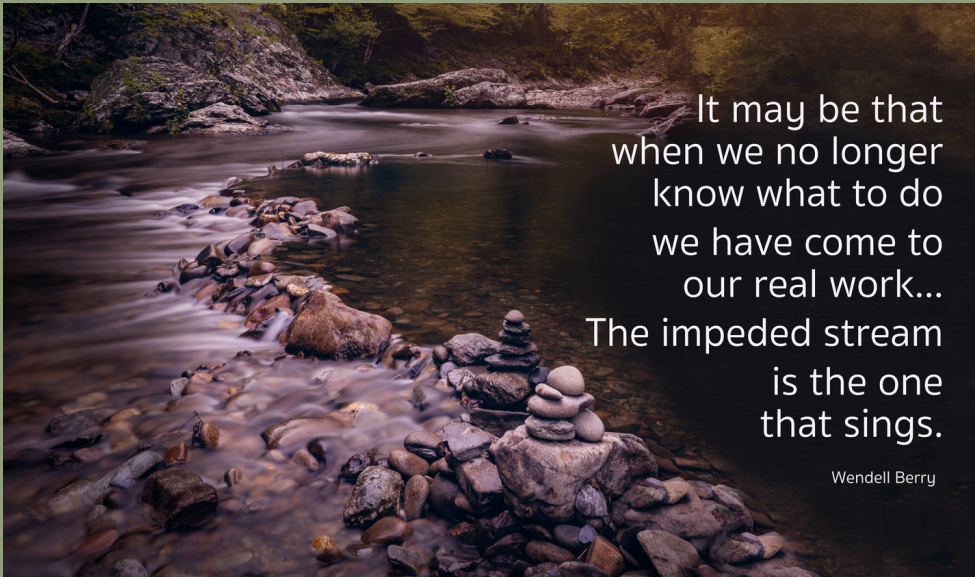


VOL. 64 ISSUE 03 • MARCH 2023

# THE EDMONTON UNITARIAN

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE UNITARIAN CHURCH OF EDMONTON

## MARCH'S THEME: PATH OF VULNERABILITY



### 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.



## THIS ISSUE:

SUNDAY SERVICES PAGE 02  
MINISTER'S REFLECTION PAGE 03  
INTO THE ELEMENTS PAGE 04  
RESILIENCE: CANVASS 2023 PAGE 05  
LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE PAGE 06  
MEMBERSHIP INFO PAGE 07  
RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION PAGE 07  
GARAGE SALE PAGE 08  
MARCH EVENTS PAGE 09  
SOUL MATTERS  
SHARING OUR ABUNDANCE  
WALKING GROUP  
MOZART TO METAL  
UUS ON TAP  
CHOREALIS CABARET PAGE 10  
CASINO VOLUNTEERING PAGE 10  
CARING CONNECTIONS PAGE 11  
CUC EVENTS PAGE 12  
VISON, MISSION, COVENANT PAGE 13  
PRINCIPLE AND SOURCES PAGE 14  
SOCIAL MEDIA PAGE 15  
LISTEN EVERYWHERE PAGE 15  
PEOPLE FINDER PAGE 16  
CALENDAR PAGE 17

# Sunday Services, 10:30 am

## **March 5    *Ask for What You Need, Offer What You Can***

***Chorealis***

In the Circle Way method of group facilitation, one of the guiding agreements for group participants is to, "ask for what you need and offer what you can." Both asking and giving require vulnerability, because both require putting oneself out and trusting the group to be supportive. In this service, we'll explore both the intimidating and empowering components of asking and giving.

\*\*\*There will be a congregational meeting after the Sunday service of March 5. UCE members can attend in person or via Zoom. We will vote on whether to ask our contract minister, Rev. Rosemary Morrison, to become our settled minister. Please try to attend this important meeting.\*\*\*

## **March 12    *Sacred Scripts?***

***Rev Morrison with Ilara Stefaniuk-Gaudet***

Vulnerability is a challenging practice, but it's also one that's necessary to create sacred space. Join us in the exploration of how relaxing our need for a script allows the presence of vulnerability and the sacred to emerge in our shared spaces.

## **March 19    *We Need On Another: Being Vulnerable in Community***

**Rev. Morrison**

This is a service you will not want to miss. We will be honouring Ruth Patrick as she turns 100 years old. There will be special music, a presentation, and a message of gratitude for Ruth. Ruth is a founding member of UCE and she continues support and care for UCE. After the service the celebration will continue with a potluck lunch and short program. All are invited! See Elin Logan to sign up to contribute and help with the pot luck. Thank you Elin!

## **March 26    *Being Alive Means Being Vulnerable***

**Rev. Morrison**

Quote - Madeleine L'Engle *When we were children, we used to think that when we were grown up, we would no longer be vulnerable. But to grow up is to accept vulnerability. To be alive is to be vulnerable.*

How will being vulnerable and open enhance and enrich our lives? Is it worth the risk of being hurt? Let's come together and explore how vulnerability can be scary and beautiful all at the same time.

# Minister's Reflection: The Path of Vulnerability

BY REV. ROSEMARY MORRISON



I am so keenly aware of how vulnerable we are when we enter this world. My newest grandchild was born on February 23rd and is a complete and total bundle of vulnerability. We arrive without the ability to manage on our own and need loving warm hands to keep us safe, clean, dry, fed, and warm. The adults in my new grandchild's world are all too happy to cater to his every need.

The reminder to me, however, is how as we become adults, we still need people in our lives that are open to and can share in our vulnerability. I, for one, can act like a 'lone wolf' as it were and try to muscle through all the obstacles of life independently. This tendency has not always served me well.

How many of us have someone in our lives that we can open up to, become vulnerable with, and then be okay with the level of sharing that just happened? My guess is that we struggle with that, especially those of us who are not in a primary relationship. Even then, of course, we tend to keep many parts of ourselves secret.

I wonder what it would be like for us personally and congregationally if we allowed ourselves to ask for help when we needed it, to give someone a compliment when we think of it, to give well delivered constructive feedback when it is warranted, and offer our gifts and talents as we are able. I can only imagine what such vulnerability would do for us! Of course, we have to not just feel safe, but actually be safe in this kind of environment.

As we develop our covenant of right relations, implement a process when there are difficulties, and actually begin to live into our covenant, the level of safety will increase for all of us. Until then, let's hold each other in love and care, allow ourselves to become vulnerable to the best of our abilities, and above all, treat ourselves with the love and care we need.

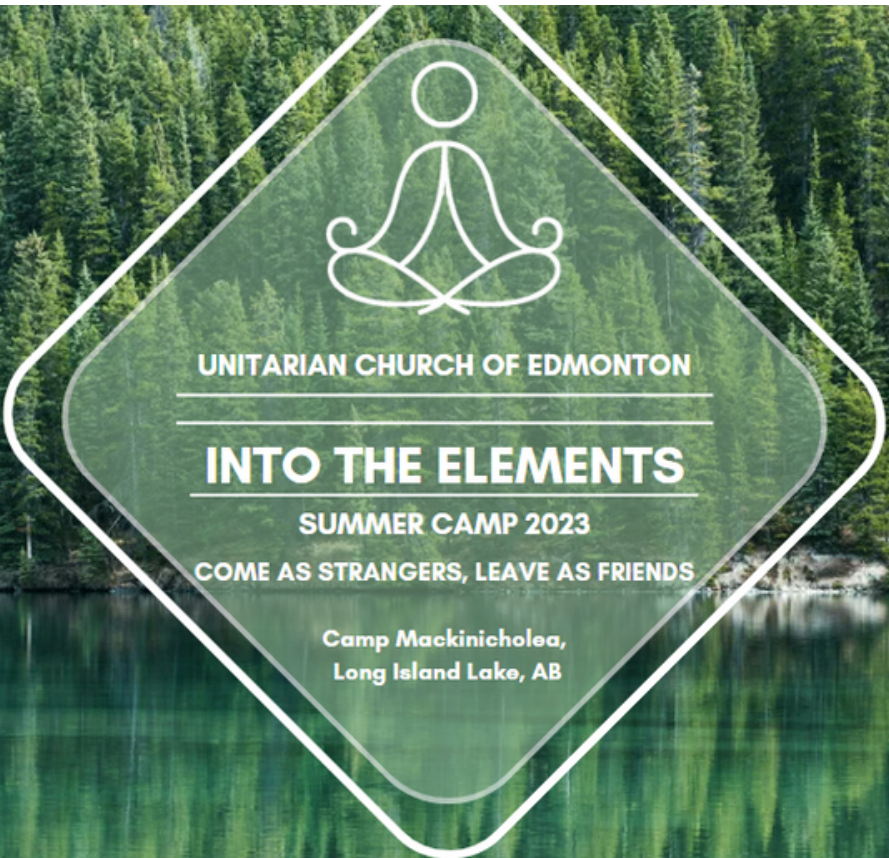
In peace,  
Rev. Rosemary

***Announcing Rev Morrison's grandchild:***  
*Étienne David de Laplante*  
*Born February 23, 2023*  
*7 pounds, 4 ounces*  
*Mom and baby are doing very well*





# save the date!



UNITARIAN CHURCH OF EDMONTON

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**INTO THE ELEMENTS**

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SUMMER CAMP 2023

COME AS STRANGERS, LEAVE AS FRIENDS

Camp Mackinicholea,  
Long Island Lake, AB

**SEPTEMBER 1 - 4**

The weekend has been booked and the deposit paid. Your UU Camp planning team needs to know... Do you want to come? Registration for Into the Elements Camp will be open to all Unitarian Universalists: families, singletons, seniors, students, grandparents with their grandchildren, all are welcome. In order to make this first, hopefully annual event, a success we need to hear from you: <https://www.uce.ca/summer-camp-2023/>



March is Canvass month. By the end of this month each member of UCE should return a pledge letting us know what they plan to contribute financially to the church for the coming year. If you are a member you are obligated to pledge. So please return your pledge this month. We have mailed out pledge forms with the tax receipts, there are pledge forms in the church, you can pledge online from our website, or you can follow this link and pledge now.

The Soul Matters theme for March is Vulnerability. Yes, our church is financially vulnerable. Our long-time tenant AWWOA is leaving us after 10 years and we are starting the search for a new tenant in a very depressed rental market. That lease is equal to 10% of our church's annual budget, so yes, we are vulnerable.

But I chose Resilience as our Canvass theme as the antithesis of vulnerability. It is through the resilience of our members and their donations of time and money that our church continues to operate. Yes, there will be challenges, but as long as we have dedicated volunteers and donors our church will remain resilient.



Please consider increasing the amount you plan to donate this year; it takes a bit more to run the church each year and cost increases are especially pointed this year.

If you have any questions about your donations to the church or how the church's finances work please contact me at any time. I will be in church every Sunday in March and would be happy to meet with you.

Thank you to our members and generous friends who donate their time and money to keep our church resilient.





## Leadership Committee Seeks Committed and Engaged Candidates!

Our UU Principles call us to affirm and promote the right of conscience and the use of democratic process within our congregations and in society at large. Each year our Annual General Meeting (AGM) provides us with the opportunity to act on that principle as the congregation elects candidates for the Board, the Ministerial Relations Committee and the Leadership Committee (formerly known as the Nominating Committee). Our Bylaws require all candidates to be members of the Congregation.

The Leadership Committee is responsible for presenting to each AGM a list of eligible candidates willing to stand for election to vacancies on the Board of Trustees (the Board), the Ministerial Relations Committee (MRC) and the Leadership Committee. The Board is responsible for managing the property of the Church, the conduct and administration of its business and general supervisions of the programs and activities of the Church. The MRC has been paused since 2020, the Interim Ministry of Rev. Washington, and the initial year-and-a-half of Rev. Rosemary Morrison's contract with the Unitarian Church of Edmonton (UCE). A review of the Board and MRC structures is underway, with possible bylaw changes, but the basic purposes of the Board and the congregational committees remain.

At each AGM we elect the Board executive (President, Vice-President who serve a one year term each, and a Secretary or a Treasurer in alternate years.) Two Trustees are elected each year, to serve a two-year term each. A member of the Board may serve a variety of positions but only for six consecutive years.

**Brandie Moller-Reid** has agreed to let her name stand for President, after serving as a Trustee and as Vice-President. **Mike Keast** will move into the Past President position. **Andrew Mills** has agreed to let his name stand as Treasurer. **Susan Ruttan** continues in the second year of her two-year term as Secretary. The Leadership Committee will be contacting current Trustees, whose terms of office expire in June 2023, to determine if each is willing /able to serve for a further term. **Marilyn Gaa** has completed a two- year term as Trustee and **Gerard Hayduk** has served the remaining one-year term that became vacant when Susan was elected as Secretary. **Zoe Larson and Lynn Wolff** were appointed as Trustees to serve a one-year term each.

Leadership Committee members **Wendy Smith and Jennifer Hinchcliffe** are completing their current terms in June 2023. They are eligible for re-election. **Beth Jenkins and Donna Hamar** continue in their positions until June 2024.

If you are interested in any of the positions, please contact one of the Leadership Committee members:

<b>Donna Hamar</b> <a href="mailto:gypsiedonna17@gmail.com">gypsiedonna17@gmail.com</a> 780-425-0728	<b>Jennifer Hinchcliffe</b> <a href="mailto:jhinchedm@gmail.com">jhinchedm@gmail.com</a> 780-488-8350	<b>Wendy Smith</b> <a href="mailto:wesmith3348@gmail.com">wesmith3348@gmail.com</a> 780-455-3348 780-915-9867 (mobile)	<b>Beth Jenkins</b> <a href="mailto:jenkibeth@gmail.com">jenkibeth@gmail.com</a> 780-267-2384
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# Membership Has Its Privileges (And Responsibilities)



The Annual General Meeting for the UCE is held after the first Sunday Service in May. If you would like to have your voice heard and participate in the Board and committee elections, you need become a member before April 2nd. Approval for UCE membership takes place at Board Meetings, the third Wednesday of every month. Applications can be picked up at church or email the administrator at [chadmin@uce.ca](mailto:chadmin@uce.ca)

Spiritual Exploration  
provides opportunities  
for growth for all ages.  
Contact Oksana at  
[dre@uce.ca](mailto:dre@uce.ca)  
for more info

## March

Soul Matters Theme: **Vulnerability**



### Sunday 5th

Congregational vote.  
Members vote after  
church on Rev. Rosemary  
Morrison becoming our  
settled minister.  
Office hours  
11:30-12:30pm.

### Thursday 9th

Art and Soul  
No skill needed,  
all ages  
7-9pm  
large classroom  
We will be making  
*Altered Books*

### Sunday 19th

Spiritual Excursion  
12:30-3:30pm  
Muttart Conservatory  
Adults \$10  
Children \$5  
Carpooling and subsidies  
available

### March 23rd-31st

Oksana is away on  
a retreat. Emails  
and messages will  
be returned after  
April 1st.

@UCEExploration



[www.UCE.ca](http://www.UCE.ca)



UCE Exploration



# GARAGE SALE '23

As of this writing no plans were in place for Garage Sale 2023 - Jan McMillan had stepped down after last year's sale and a successor left in question. For many years this event has been one of the most profitable ventures the church has undertaken - thanks to Evelyn, who got us started and Jan who took it on for years. It's a BIG undertaking - requiring many hands, minds and hours. Besides the approximate windfall of \$10,000 for church initiatives, side benefits are: it enables our church members/families an opportunity to downsize and donate their unneeded household items; it raises the profile of the church as many Edmontonians look forward to what they consider the best Sale in the city; it unites church members in a common purpose; it draws in friends who just love to come and help out; we might even find new treasures to take home; and.....it is loads of FUN.

Some individuals have developed/honed their particular interests or expertise in certain areas - playing librarian in the large book section; untangling, boxing, pricing all the finicky rings, pins, necklaces for the jewelry tables; sorting, testing and pricing the tools and mechanicals; snacks for sale and lunches for set-up workers; advertising; cashiering, etc. As a congregation we all bring our donations and our interests, talents and expertise.

This it is a big but very worthy job, and we need to recognize that many core workers are getting older. So, I am proposing the following plan:

- \* I will co-ordinate and lead a team of workers to meet and plan for Garage Sale '23
- \* the team will meet to plan the details and assume responsibility for certain areas/tasks
- \* the team will assist in recruiting volunteers to take lead in specific areas
- \* set a schedule for accomplishing the many steps leading up to Sale days and take-down

We have had super participation every year and I am confident this year will also be a venture of many. Please contact me by Sunday, March 12 if you would like to be part of the planning team or if you have an area of interest/ability to work in during the set-up and/or sale days. I am looking at May 5th and 6th as sale weekend.

Many thanks, Donna Hamar  
gypsiedonna17@gmail.com  
phone: 780-425-0728



# MARCH

## SHARING OUR ABUNDANCE



**The IWC's Mission: We are a global partnership of Unitarian Universalists who work for women's empowerment through Unitarian Universalist connections around the world.**

**<https://www.intlwomensconvo.org/>**



***Soul Matters exists to support this journey of reconnection to life, others and our deepest self.***

Click [here](#) for March's packet. Please contact Reverend Rosemary at [minister@uce.ca](mailto:minister@uce.ca) if you would like to join a small group



## MOZART TO METAL

Tuesdays, at 7:00 pm. please contact Alex at [tunes@uce.ca](mailto:tunes@uce.ca) to join.



## WALKING GROUP

Walkers carpool from church, leaving at 10:15 am, or meet at the walk site at 10:30 am. There are often changes to the schedule so if you are not on the email list please call Sheila, 780-243-7581 the day before to confirm the walk.

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| <b>March 4</b>  | Victoria Promenade to Ezio Faraone Park |
| <b>March 11</b> | Tawatina Foot Bridge                    |
| <b>March 18</b> | Queen Elizabeth Park                    |
| <b>March 25</b> | Laurier                                 |

## UUS ON TAP



**6:15 pm, March 27th at  
Brewster's in Unity Square:  
11620 104 Ave NW**

# CABARET NIGHT

Saturday, March 25

7:00pm

FEATURING

**Chorealis**, UCE's choir

With special guests

**Caleb Nelson**

**Dana Wylie**

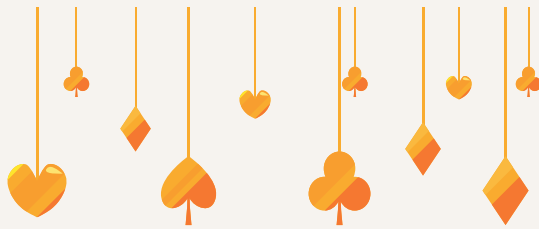
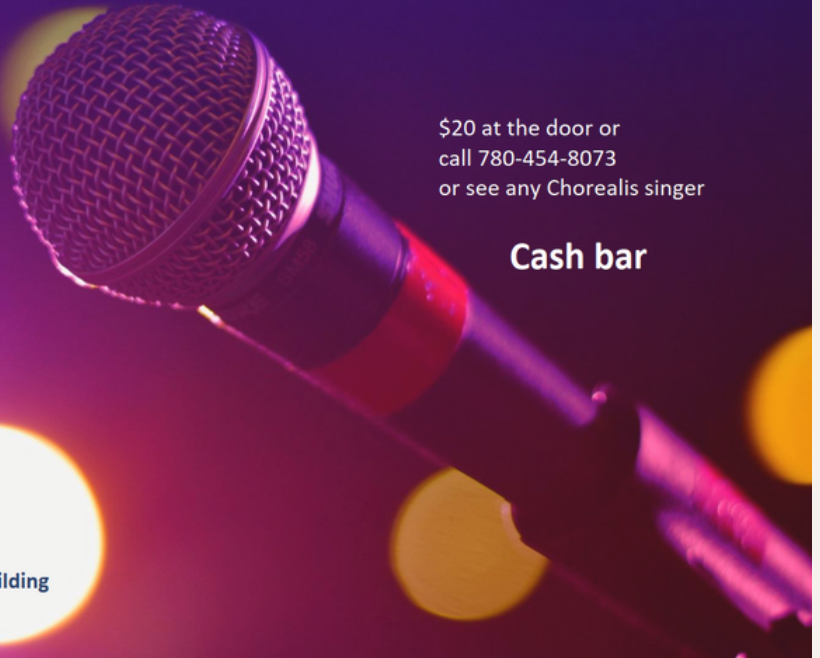
\$20 at the door or  
call 780-454-8073  
or see any Chorealis singer

Cash bar



10804 - 119 St NW

Entrance on the south side of the building



## Casino Volunteers Needed!

After 3 long years, we finally have our next Casino scheduled. Our casino will be June 30th and July 1st at the Starlight Casino in West Edmonton Mall. The Casino is our biggest fundraiser and contributes approximately \$70,000.00 to our operating budget over 2 years.

We will have a paid advisor on site the entire time, who will train volunteers for their position and stay with us. All volunteers will be provided meals. If transportation is required, that can be provided at no expense to the volunteer. To sign up please go to the link and complete the form for the position you wish to fill. <https://volunteersignup.org/B73EX>

If you have further questions about what is entailed or if you require transport, please reach out to Brandie Moller-Reid.

Brandie can be contacted at [brmoller@hotmail.com](mailto:brmoller@hotmail.com) or find her in church!  
Thank you to all in advance.

# CARING CONNECTIONS IS FOR YOU



UCE's Caring Connections Project is way for us to help each other out. All members and friends of UCE may access Caring Connections when you need it.

- Are you laid up in a recliner with your leg in a cast? We can deliver meals.
- Do you need a ride to church occasionally? Someone can drive you.
- Are you bored to tears in a seniors residence with no car and mobility issues? We can send visitors.

If you need help or you know someone who does, contact your Caring Connections Dispatcher Gloria Krenbrenk at 780-668-9166 or [ucecares@uce.com](mailto:ucecares@uce.com). Let us know if someone should receive a caring card in the mail from their UCE friends.

We need volunteer helpers:

- Nourisher – prepare a soup or meal for delivery
- Transporter – give rides or deliver a meal prepared by a Nourisher
- Visitor – Visit as a friend with someone who can't get out much
- Handihelps – simple repairs or advice on home, garden, auto or technology
- Special Offers – something unique to you than can benefit others

To sign up, contact your Caring Connections Dispatcher Gloria Krenbrenk at 780-668-9166 or [ucecares@uce.com](mailto:ucecares@uce.com). Many thanks to those who have already stepped up.

You are never required to respond to a request. All Transporters, for example, will receive an email request and those who can help will respond, then the Dispatcher matches the request with a Caring Connector.

Confidentiality is maintained at all times, except with mutual agreement of the Receiver and Caring Connector. The Minister is informed of all Caring Connections activities.

Any questions contact Gloria 780-668-9166 or [ucecares@uce.com](mailto:ucecares@uce.com).





## CUC March Events and more

(Please click heading above to go to CUC's Calendar for more information on the below events)

### **Rising Together: UU Youth and Emerging Adults of Colour**

Saturday, March 4, 2023 – 2:00 pm MT (90 minutes) For Youth (14-19) and emerging adults of colour

<https://cuc.ca/events/rising-together-uu-youth-and-emerging-adults-of-colour-march-2023/1677945600/1677951000/>

### **Gathered Here Monthly Check In for Young Adults ages 18-35**

Thursday, March 13, 6:00 pm MT

<https://cuc.ca/events/gathered-here-march-2023/1678737600/1678743000/>

### **UUConnecting 5:00 p.m. MT**

<https://cuc.ca/events/uuconnecting-5/1679252400/1679257800/>

**CUC National Symposium 2023:  
Friday, May 19 – Sunday, 21, 2023  
<https://cuc.ca/events/cuc-national-symposium-2023/1684454400/1684684800/>**



### **Chorus: Young Adults at the National Symposium**

Friday, May 19 at 1:00 pm ET – Monday, May 22 at 12:30 pm ET

<https://cuc.ca/events/chorus-2023/1684501200/1684758600/>

# Shaping Our CommUUnity



## **Vision:**

**We open doors to all seekers of spiritual growth and nurture positive change for a just and healthy world.**

## **Mission:**

UCE Mission is to inspire social justice by questioning the status quo, engaging community and inviting all to the table.

We do this by providing an intentionally inclusive home to:

- nurture spiritual growth and transformation
- foster learning opportunities and outreach experiences
- welcome all age groups
- support action for social justice
- be guided by the principles and sources of Unitarian Universalism

## **UCE Covenant of Right Relations:**

With love as our guide, we pledge to create a beloved community of peace and compassion. We trust our ability to work through conflict. As members and friends of UCE, we agree to:

- Honour and respect diversity in values and beliefs as a source of communal strength
- Be truthful, kind and open minded
- Assume good intent and goodwill
- Listen with open hearts and speak with care even when it is uncomfortable
- Talk to, not about, others
- Accept responsibility for our individual acts
- Address conflict promptly and ask for help when conflict is too difficult
- Be steadfast in support of our community in times of disagreement
- Share the ministry of the congregation through our gifts of time, talent and money
- Express encouragement and appreciation for the gifts of others

# 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.



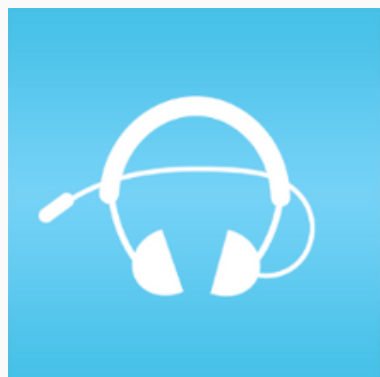
**Please enjoy watching recordings of our Sunday Services again on YouTube or listen as a Podcast on SoundCloud. Just click on the link and don't forget to subscribe while you are there.**

**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>

## **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.

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Phone 780-454-8073 Fax 780-452-1641  
E-MAIL [chadmin@uce.ca](mailto:chadmin@uce.ca) WEBSITE [www.uce.ca](http://www.uce.ca)  
Church Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday, 9 am to 2 pm**

## **People Finder**

UCE Board: [board@uce.ca](mailto:board@uce.ca)  
President: Mike Keast  
Vice President: Brandie Moller  
Treasurer, Finance Committee Chair: Andrew Mills [andrew@misc.ca](mailto:andrew@misc.ca)  
Trustees: Marilyn Gaa, Susan Ruttan, Lynn Wolff and Gerard Hayduk  
Minister: Reverend Rosemary Morrison [minister@uce.ca](mailto:minister@uce.ca)  
Church Office: Janet Polkovsky [chadmin@uce.ca](mailto:chadmin@uce.ca)  
Religious Exploration Director: Oksana Atwood [dre@uce.ca](mailto:dre@uce.ca)  
Head Teller: David Rae  
Chorealis Choir: Gordon Ritchie, Karen Mills  
Church Services: Gordon Ritchie  
Lay Chaplain: Marilyn Gaa  
Building and Grounds: Alan Boyle

# MARCH

# 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
				Chorealis Rehearsal 7:30 pm	Walking Group 1030 am	
Sunday Service 11:00 am	5	6	7	8	9	10
		Zoom: Mozart to Metal 7 pm		Art & Soul 7 pm	Chorealis 7:30 pm	Walking Group 1030 am
Sunday Service 10:30 am	12	13	14	15	16	17
		Zoom: Mozart to Metal 7 pm	Zoom: UCE Board Mtg 7:15 pm	Chorealis Rehearsal 7:30 pm	Walking Group 1030 am	
Sunday Service 10:30 am	19	20	21	22	23	24
		Zoom: Mozart to Metal 7 pm			Chorealis 7:30 pm	Walking Group 1030 am
Sunday Service 10:30 am	26	27	28	29	30	31
						Chorealis Cabaret 7:00 pm