

VOL. 65 ISSUE 10 • NOVEMBER 2024

# THE EDMONTON UNITARIAN

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE UNITARIAN CHURCH OF EDMONTON

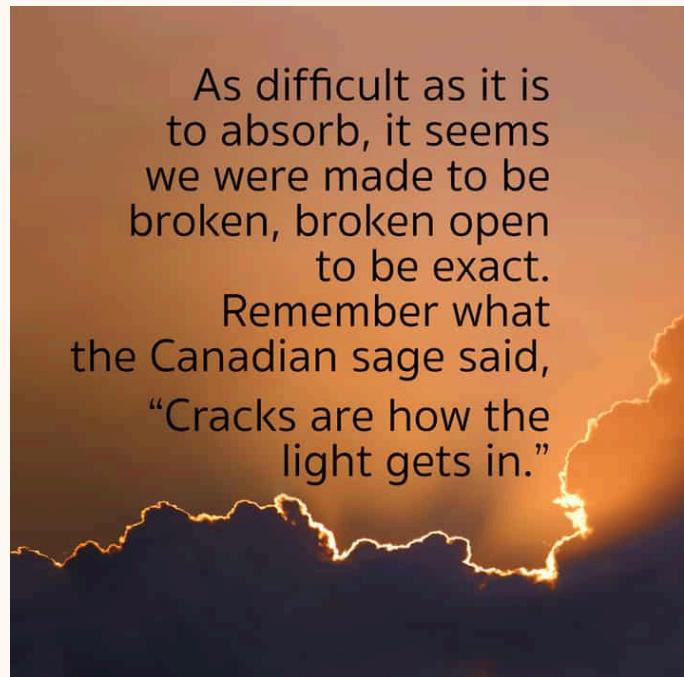
## LIVING LOVE THROUGH THE PRACTICE OF REPAIR



**November's Package:**  
**[click here](#)**

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### Land Acknowledgement

In accordance with our principles, we acknowledge with gratitude that we gather on traditional Cree lands that are 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.



# Sunday Services, 10:30 am

**Nov 3**

**Healing the Earth**

**Chorealis**

In their Charge from the Earth, Irene Glasse and Rebekah Savage write, "...as we live together in community, we are also in community with the silently singing lives in the vast congregation of the earth as well. The interdependent web of existence is no allegory. It is as real as the heart beating within our chests...We have a role to play in softening the blow of the Age of Humans. We have a voice that can help to shape the world to come." As we explore this month's theme of healing, let's look at how we can use our voices and lives to heal, and not further harm, our planetary home and our relationship with all its beings.  
P.S. Don't forget the time change!

**Nov 10**

**Life is All About Repair**

**Rev. Morrison**

Did you know there are several parts to an apology? That simply saying, "I'm sorry," isn't often enough? This service will look to the groundbreaking work of Danya Ruttenberg to learn more about how we can repair more effectively what is broken in us, our relationships, and our world.

**Nov 17**

**The Space Between Us: Celebrating UCE, Membership, Fellowship, and Families**

**Rev. Morrison**

This fun family friendly service will include a new member recognition, movement, stories, spoken candles, and everyone's favourite afterward: Soup Sunday. Come prepared to participate, learn, cheer, and enjoy Soup Sunday!

**Nov 17, 7 pm**

**Vespers Service**

**Rev. Morrison**

Please join Rev. Rosemary for a quiet hour of rest, repair, and renewal. This service will incorporate Parker Palmer's 'Circle of Trust' format to allow for a time of self reflection and deep understanding.

**Nov 24**

**Mending and Minding:  
Repairing the Fabric of Our Lives**

**Rev. Morrison**

As we approach December and all the extra demands of our time, let's gather to think about what this time of year means to us. Please join Rev. Rosemary to explore some ways to prioritize, set boundaries, and make it through to 2025 in great shape!



We look forward to seeing you all on Zoom from the comfort of your own environs. Please use this link:  
<https://zoom.us/j/97779453314?pwd=VVB1VWF5ZUd0UGU1ZXQ5UGVxb0tXQT09>

# November's Ministerial Reflections

Danya Ruttenberg, from On Repentance and Repair

***The work of repentance, all the way through is the work of transformation... It's the work of being open to seeing ourselves as we really are, of understanding that other people's needs and pain are at least as important—if not more so—than our own...It's about ownership—owning who we have been and what we have done, and also owning the person that we are capable of becoming.***



On most Sundays, the benediction I offer at the end of the service is a quote I have adapted by L. R. Knost. In it, there is an acknowledgement that all things can break, and that all things can be mended, but not with time. Attention is needed if we wish to repair that which has broken. This month we are going to be exploring the Soul Matters theme: Living Love Through the Practice of Repair. I am so looking forward to exploring this important topic with the congregation because, at Danya Ruttenberg states, repair (repentance) is the work of transformation. This transformation can happen in our personal, work, casual, or congregational relationships. We aren't born knowing how to fix things when feelings are hurt, when the wrong thing has been said, and especially when big mistakes are made. There is so much more to fixing things than just saying, 'I'm sorry.' Ruttenberg encourages us to examine our intentions, look outside of ourselves, and take responsibility for our part of the problem.

I know I have much to learn and many things to improve about myself if I want to get better at repairing when I have made a mistake. I am excited to be engaging in this topic with you this month, as we learn how to be better together and individually. Ruttenberg encourages us to own the person and congregation we are capable of becoming!

I invite you to have a look at the excellent resources provided by the Soul Matters team each month. There are articles, videos, music, poetry, and other types of readings available to you each month on our theme. These materials will make your experience of our monthly themes more relevant and meaningful.

In peace,  
Rev. Rosemary

# Church Business

## Board Highlights by Lynne Turvey

### Welcome, Sue!

The board is thrilled to welcome Sue Lynch to the position of Vice President for (at least) the rest of this church year. Sue had expressed interest previously but was unable to commit to the role until now. UCE bylaws allow the board to appoint someone to a vacant position until the next AGM. Sue brings much experience and wisdom to our team.

### New Renter

The New Life Church is renting the sanctuary and the large classroom every Sunday afternoon following our service. This brings in much-needed revenue and even more vibrancy to our special building. If you cross paths with minister Desta Olana and his congregants on Sunday, do say hello and welcome.

### Garage Sale Update

Our stupendous garage sale event just keeps on giving! After the May garage sale, jewelry sales were taken over by Chantel Ledoux, who sold many items on her business market days. Half of the proceeds came to UCE, so an additional \$757 joins the roughly \$14,350 earned at the sale in May. It cannot be emphasized enough how important the garage sale is to the annual budget. We are so grateful for the incredible work by Donna Hamar, Jan McMillan and their crew of volunteers over the years. But Donna and Jan are hanging up their aprons and putting away their price markers for a much-deserved rest. Another lead organizer (or organizers) will be needed, or alternative fundraisers coordinated. Ideas are welcome.

### Three Policies Approved

Thank you to everyone who participated in the consultations on three proposed new policies: Conflict Resolution, Safe and Caring Conditions, and Destructive Behaviour. The Governance Advisory Team (GAT) considered your thoughtful feedback, which contributed to the final versions that the board has approved. Watch for details in the Friday email as to how you can access these documents.

## Join our Food Bank Team!



Each Wednesday evening, our church transforms into a bustling Food Bank depot, serving about 30 families in need. We need three dedicated volunteers each week to check in clients, assist with food distribution, and manage setup and cleanup.

Volunteers work from 5 pm to 7:30 pm. If you're interested in being on a call list to help out, please email Susan Ruttan at [ruttans@shaw.ca](mailto:ruttans@shaw.ca). It's a fulfilling way to support our community and make a real difference in people's lives.



# *Endowment: Making a Difference Now and in the Future*



Two phrases we hear a lot in the media these days: “a tribute to ...” and “making a difference.” What if there’s an easy way to combine both of those?

“Tributes” are a way to honour and draw attention to people and their actions that we admire. According to the dictionary, tributes demonstrate our respect and affection. They are thus important expressions of what we value.

Tributes could be signs or monuments, events, speeches or the written word. But how about a tribute that makes an enduring difference?

That’s exactly what the UCE Endowment Fund was created to do. It is different from the “regular” contributions that we, as members and friends, give to the church to keep the lights on and the services happening.

To commemorate something significant --- say, a retirement, a wedding, a milestone birthday, the memory of a dear friend, a birth in the family --- people want to do something special and enduring. Contributions to the Endowment Fund are just that: they are not “used up” but they endure to generate income and to provide UCE with a nest egg for its long-term goals.

For example, in 2004 the Endowment Funds provided part of the capital necessary to buy and renovate this building to turn it into our new church “home.” Without it, the move to a larger building might not have been possible.

Do you wish to remember UCE in your will? Do you feel moved to honour someone significant in your life?

Questions? Please see one of the current Endowment Trustees (John Turvey, Jan McMillan, or me). Updated Endowment Fund brochures (and envelopes) can be found at the back of the church, and as well as other information on UCE.ca, click on the DONATE button and scroll down to “Planned Giving.”

--- Ruth Merriott

# November

## November Sharing Our Abundance: CBC's Make the Season Kind!



Every year, CBC radio teams from coast to coast to coast partner with local food banks to raise awareness and donations to help make the season kind. At the UCE, we like to get a jumpstart on the giving season by sharing our November's abundance so that we can help this annual fundraiser meet its goal and support Edmonton's Food Bank.

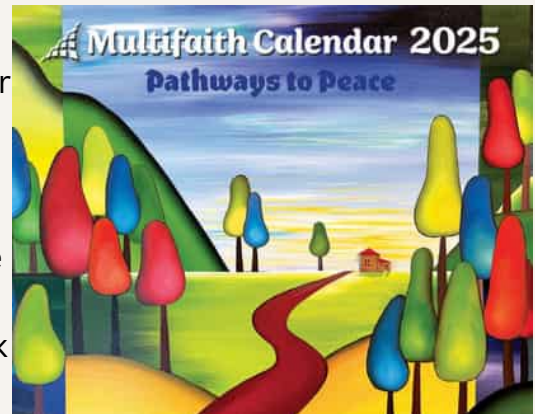


## Edmonton Interfaith Centre for Education & Action

Audrey Brooks has already started selling the 2025 edition of the calendar. Please look for her on Sundays or contact her at [audbrook@telusplanet.net](mailto:audbrook@telusplanet.net). Calendars are \$16.00, save additional shipping charges and order it from Audrey to support the work of the centre.

For more information about the art, please click here:

<https://www.edminterfaithcentre.ca/2025-multifaith-calendar-pathways-to-peace/>



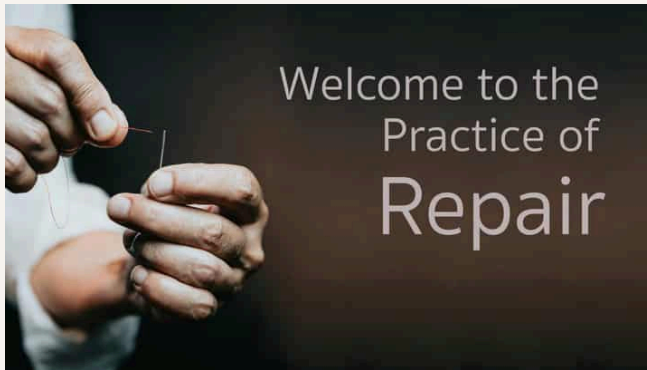
Rarely, if ever, are  
any of us healed  
in isolation.

Healing is an act  
of communion.

bell hooks



# LIFE LONG SPIRITUAL GROWTH AT UCE



November's Package: [HERE](#)

MOVIE NIGHT: NOV 29, 6 PM



## WRITING AS SELF-REVELATION

WEDNESDAYS, NOV 6 AND 20 AT 7:30

CLASSROOM 2 @ UCE

WITH DAVE FEKETE,

[REVDRFEKETE@GMAIL.COM](mailto:REVDRFEKETE@GMAIL.COM)

SUGGESTED DONATION: \$21

To read Rev. Fekete's full article, click [here](#)



## AND AT WESTWOOD

## NOVEMBER 22, 7 PM

[HTTPS://WWW.WESTWOODUNITARIAN.CA/EVENT/GAMES-NIGHT-AT-WESTWOOD-3/](https://www.westwoodunitarian.ca/event/games-night-at-westwood-3/)





UUS ON TAP

**WED | NOV 27 | 6 PM**

**THREE VIKINGS**

**THE LAST ONE BEFORE THE NEW YEAR!  
COME AND CATCH UP WITH EVERYONE'S NEWS**

**10713 - 124 STREET**



# CUC Events



## National Worship Sunday Service: The Church of Our Imagination

Sunday, Nov 3, online: 11:00 am MT

Eleven years ago at a CUC National event, a group of Canadian young adults wrote a poem – The Church of Our Imagination – that captured the attention of everyone present. Today we are revisiting it, and them, as we imagine our way(s) forward.

## Gathered Here, Tuesday, Nov 12: 6 pm MT



An online check-in for Canadian Unitarian Universalist young adults.

## Connect and Deepen Saturday, Nov. 26: 2 pm MT **LEADING**



Leading can be a challenging concept – bringing up our ideals, our insecurities, and a host of other things. How is UU Leading different from other styles? What are your experiences and thoughts around Leading? Host: Anne Barker



## Rising Together: Unitarian Universalists of Colour, Wednesday, Nov. 13: 5:30 pm MT

Black folks, Indigenous folks and people of colour (BIPOC) are often in the minority in Unitarian Universalists congregations and communities. Gathering together with others who share similar identities and experiences can reduce isolation and support us in getting our spiritual needs met. Rising Together is the place where we can find each other!



## Congregational Conversations: UU Expressions, Saturday, Nov 23 - 11 am MT

Have you been listening to the UU Expressions recordings? Join us to share Insights, questions, and possibilities.



# Pastoral Care

The newly minted Pastoral Care Team was active this summer at the UCE, offering practical, spiritual, and emotional support to our congregation. Members and friends were helped with housing, visiting and messages of care.

**The team is ready to continue this fall!**

## How We Help:



Meal Deliveries: For those recovering and unable to cook.



Transportation: For rides to church.



Friendly Visits: For those in senior residences or with mobility issues.



We can also send caring cards upon request.

## For assistance:

Contact Gloria Krenbrenk our Caring Connections Dispatcher at 780-668-9166 or at [ucecares@uce.com](mailto:ucecares@uce.com).

To contact the whole team **anytime**, there is an easy way to do this. Simply go to our website, <https://www.uce.ca/contact-us/> and click on the pastoral care link.

**Rev. Rosemary, Carol Hutchings, Alec Moorji and Gloria Krenbrenk**

# 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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Church Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday, 9 am to 2 pm**

## **People Finder**

UCE Board: [board@uce.ca](mailto:board@uce.ca)  
President: Lynne Turvey  
Vice President: Sue Lynch  
Treasurer, Finance Committee Chair: Andrew Mills [andrew@misc.ca](mailto:andrew@misc.ca)  
Secretary: Susan Ruttan  
Trustees: Marilyn Gaa, Gerard Hayduk, Wendy Smith and Art Breier  
Minister: Reverend Rosemary Morrison [minister@uce.ca](mailto:minister@uce.ca)  
Church Office: Janet Polkovsky [chadmin@uce.ca](mailto:chadmin@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



# NOVEMBER

2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
					7:00 Samhain Ritual	10 am- 4 pm CUC Colab
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10:30 am Sunday Service			7:30 Writing as Revelation	7:30 Chorealis Rehearsal		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
10:30 am Sunday Service				7:30 Chorealis Rehearsal		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
10:30 am Sunday Service, Soup Sunday 7:00 pm Vesper Service			7:30 Writing as Revelation	7:30 Chorealis Rehearsal		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
10:30 am Sunday Service Deck the Halls			6:00 UUs on Tap @ 3 Vikings	7:30 Chorealis Rehearsal	6:30 Soul Matters Movie Night	