

VOL. 66 ISSUE 05 • MAY 2025

# THE EDMONTON UNITARIAN

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE UNITARIAN CHURCH OF EDMONTON

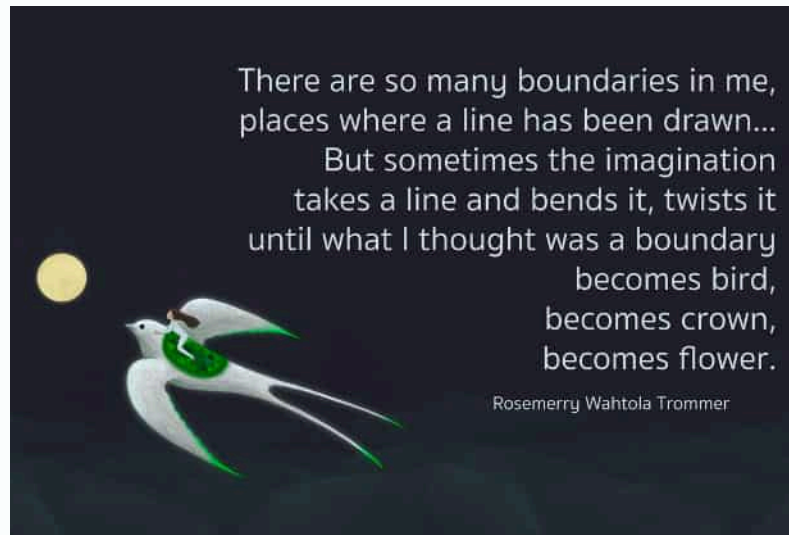
## LIVING LOVE THROUGH THE PRACTICE OF IMAGINATION



[May'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

**May 4**                      ***Practicing the Future Together***                      **Chorealis**

adrienne maree brown said, “Science fiction is simply a way to practice the future together.” In this service, join Chorealis to practice the future together not through science fiction, but through song. We’ll use lyrics, melody, harmony and rhythm to spark our imaginations and sort through thoughts both dark and light

**May 11**                      ***Creating Pathways: Letting Go***                      **Rev. Morrison**

Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer suggests that if we simply change the angle, we will then see that what looked like a barrier has become a pathway. Sometimes these things keep us from living up to our full potential.

**May 18**                      ***The Pastoral Care Team Presents: The Heart and Soul of UCE (Family Friendly Service)***

Please join the Pastoral Care Team (Carol Hutchings, Gloria Krenbrenk, Alec Moorji, and Rev. Rosemary) for this wonderful service. You will get to know the team members a bit better, learn what the team has been up to, and how you can support them. This service promises to be uplifting, heart-warming, and fun!

**May 25**                      ***Learning to Fly and Other Imaginings***                      **Rev. Morrison**

J. M. Barrie wrote in Peter Pan: The moment you doubt whether you can fly, you cease forever to be able to do it.

What do you think UCE is capable of? In what ways have we clipped our own wings? Let's explore the possibilities together!

## Services are typically 60-75 minutes in length



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

[pwd=VVB1VWF5ZUd0UGU1ZXQ5UGVxb0tXQT09](https://zoom.us/j/97779453314?pwd=VVB1VWF5ZUd0UGU1ZXQ5UGVxb0tXQT09)



# May's Ministerial Reflections

Quote - Antoine de Saint-Exupery

If you want to build a ship, don't drum up people to collect wood and don't assign them tasks and work, but rather teach them to long for the endless immensity of the sea.

Longing, the word alone conjures up images and feelings within my heart and mind, as I'm sure it does for you too.

When I first arrived here, I was struck by the enormous potentiality of the congregation to make a huge positive difference in the lives of our members and friends, this city, and the wider world. I was right of course. I have been so impressed by the tremendous amount of work people have put into developing and implementing the foundational documents that provides the strong undergirding we can now enjoy. Then, the willingness of folks to populate new teams and begin the work they set out for themselves in their terms of reference. There have been seven new teams created since I got here. Some I recruited, some self-selected. I am immensely proud of all the leadership and work that is being done on behalf of UCE within these groups.

Also, we have created safer space for our present and future members and friends with a covenant and other safety policies. The Right Relations Team is there for when there is something to address, when covenant has been broken, helping to call us back into covenant between ourselves and/or the congregation.

Now what? What longing do you have that could be translated into service? What do you think you might like to do to bring greater life and flourishing within the congregation?

This month we are delving into the concept of 'Imagination.' We are limited only by our imaginations as to what UCE can do and become. Imagination leads to energy, to service, to joy, and back to imagination.

What does your imagination call you to be and become?  
How would you like to be involved in creating the UCE of your imagination?

Imagining great things to come,  
Rev. Rosemary

# Church Business

*President's Ponderings*  
by Lynne Turvey

## Getting Out Our Message

At its April meeting, the board heard from a delegation of the Communications and Marketing team (CaM) about their role and activities over the past year. CaM's purpose is to develop a comprehensive long-term plan to guide a unified, consistent strategic direction for UCE through social media and website management.

The team undertook some extensive research to determine the most urgent communication needs, keeping in mind available staff, volunteer and budget resources. You will recall one of those research tools was the congregational survey last December. One of the conclusions drawn from that survey and other research initiatives was to focus first on refining and targeting the UCE message to an external audience, the wider community. That means we must make sure we understand what the message truly is, in other words, who and what is the Unitarian Church of Edmonton? What would make someone want to get to know us better? CaM will be aiming to learn more about that and then bring that vision to life over the next few months.

CaM members are Louise Charach, John Pater, Lorne Pendleton, Karen Bilida, Jon Littlefield and Karen Mills. You can read CaM's comprehensive report, along with reports from other groups, in the 2025 AGM package published on our website under the Church Business tab.



I want to thank everyone who volunteered and helped make the casino successful. This fundraiser is essential to UCE and impossible without our committed volunteers.

In Gratitude and Love,  
Brandie

## **UCE Annual General Meeting – Celebrating Our Community**

**Join us for the UCE AGM on Sunday, May 4 at 11:45 am to celebrate our community and shape the future! We'll:**

- **Hear updates from staff and committees**
- **Decide on budget allocations**
- **Elect new Board**

**Your voice matters! Members (60+ days) can vote. Refreshments will be provided. Questions? Ask a board member. See you there!**

## **Supporting each other in a Changing World- Reflections from April 13, 2025**

Following our service April 13, 30 of us gathered to connect and share reflections on the current political and social environment. We spoke about personal experiences navigating conflict with loved ones, feelings of stress and uncertainty, and personal impacts on our lives. We exchanged helpful tips and insights and spoke of emotion vs logic. "Protect your peace" was a good reminder for us. "Keep as active as you can and don't withdraw from it all." Don't get mired in "it's too awful". The significance of curiosity and respectful dialogue was highlighted: the need to ask questions, learn and explore diverse perspectives with respect. At the foundation of it all, we spoke of the need to clarify our UU beliefs in this changing context so that we can articulate our views and positions and speak our faith with a strong and confident voice as a community. As a collective action, the upcoming municipal election in the Fall might provide the opportunity for analyses of the various issues and an corresponding, informed UU response.

More to come.

The Right Relations Team - Carol, Andrea, Louise



Celebration of Life for  
Dorothy Keeler  
Friday, May 30, 3 pm  
Unitarian Church of  
Edmonton

# May Sharing Our Abundance

**YESS**

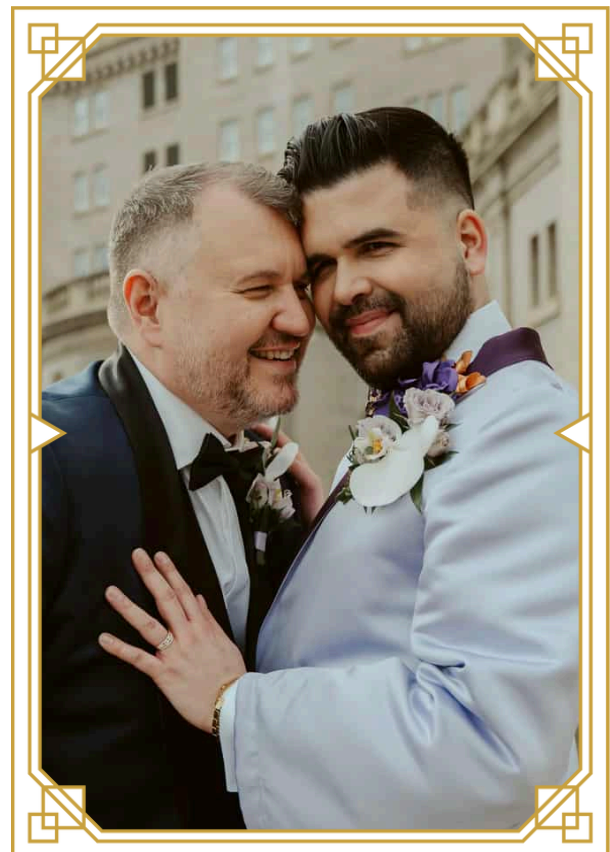


Youth Empowerment and Support Services (YESS)' Youth Support Centre is a 24/7, single-point-of-access to immediate and low-barrier physical, mental, cultural, and emotional health supports and a safe place to stay for youth aged 15-21 who are experiencing crisis in the Edmonton Metro Area

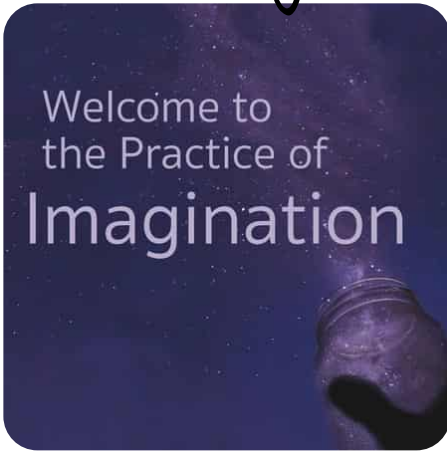
<https://yess.org/>

Wishing Gerard and  
Andy the very best of  
health and happiness!  
Married, April 12, 2025

Fairmont MacDonald Hotel  
Photographer: Brendan Roy  
(Boundless Photography)



# Lifelong Spiritual Growth



[For May's Theme Package, click here](#)

- **Soul Matters Movie Night will be Friday, May 30 at 6 pm**

## Beltaine Ritual

Friday, May 9 at 7pm

Please join Ali Hammington in a celebration of Beltaine and the season of fertility with a ritual and Maypole dance. Feel free to bring drums and noisemakers to accompany the dancers. We ask participants to arrive by 7pm to avoid interrupting the ritual.



# GATHERING

*Here*

featuring *Chorealis*, the choir of the  
Unitarian Church of Edmonton  
performing choral works  
by Gordon Ritchie

Saturday, May 10, 2025  
Unitarian Church of Edmonton  
10804 - 119 Street  
7:30 PM | tickets: \$20



UUs

# ON TAP

Wed | May 28 | 6pm



THREE VIKINGS



10713 124 ST

**JOIN REV. ROSEMARY FOR LAST GATHERING  
OF THE CHURCH YEAR – A WONDERFUL  
OPPORTUNITY TO CONNECT WITH FELLOW  
UUS, SHARE IN COMMUNITY, AND NOURISH  
BOTH HEART AND SPIRIT. WE LOOK FORWARD  
TO SEEING YOU THERE!**

# In Our Community

## Beyond Land Acknowledgments: Reconciliation Speaker Series



Sunday, June 1  
5:30 - 8:30 pm  
In person with  
soup and bannock  
and via Zoom

Registration on  
Eventbrite will be  
open soon!

Westwood Unitarian  
Congregation  
11135 - 65 Avenue NW

Come out and help clean up  
Queen Mary Park's green  
spaces, alleys, and roads.

SUNDAY, MAY 25th from  
3pm to 4pm  
Queen Mary Park Hall

Pick up a cleaning kit, meet  
your neighbours, and help  
keep our community  
beautiful!

\*Kits include grabbers,  
garbage bags, and gloves.

A green flyer for a "Clean Up Queen Mary Park" event. The flyer features a photo of hands in blue gloves holding a plastic bottle, and a photo of a path in a park. Text includes: "Let's Come Together to Clean Up QUEEN MARY PARK", "SUNDAY, May 25th 3pm - 4pm", "Meet at Queen Mary Park Hall 10844 117 St.", and "SEE YOU THERE!"

# CUC Events



**AGM 2025 Conversations**

**Wednesday, May 7, 5:30 pm MT (1.5 hours)**

**<https://cuc.ca/events/agm-2025-conversations-3/1746646200/1746651600/>**

**Rising Together: Unitarian Universalists of Colour |**

**Wednesday, May 14, 5:30 MT**

**<https://cuc.ca/events/rising-together-unitarian-universalists-of-colour-may-2025/1747251000/1747256400/>**



**National Worship Sunday Service: From Possibility to Practice**

**Sunday, May 18, 11:00 am MT**

**<https://cuc.ca/events/national-worship-sunday-service-from-possibility/1747573200/1747576800/>**

**Dismantling Barriers: Talking About Solidarity**

**Thursday, May 29, 5:00 pm MT (2 hours)**

**<https://cuc.ca/events/dismantling-barriers-talking-about-solidarity/1748545200/1748554200/>**



**CUC Annual General Meeting 2025**

**Saturday, May 31: Online via Zoom, 11:00 am MT**

**<https://cuc.ca/events/cuc-annual-general-meeting-2025/1748696400/1748709000/>**



# Pastoral Care

The newly minted Pastoral Care Team offers practical, spiritual, and emotional support to our congregation. Members and friends were helped with housing, visiting and messages of care.

**The team is ready!**

**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 Renamed Listen Wi-Fi**

Listen Wi-Fi is a service to replace our aging FM radios.

**First time user**

Step 1: Connect to UCE wifi on your mobile device

- In WiFi settings select UCE
- Type in Password:

Step 2: Download Listen WiFi App (from app store)

Step 3: Tap on Listen WiFi app on your device

Step 4: Select venue - UCE

Step 5: Adjust volume on your device



**Returning user**

Step 1: Connect to UCE wifi on your mobile device

- In WiFi settings select UCE
- Type in password if it has not been saved

Step 2: Tap on the Listen WiFi app

Step 3: Select venue - UCE

Step 4: Adjust volume on your device

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Phone 780-454-8073  
E-MAIL [chadmin@uce.ca](mailto:chadmin@uce.ca)  
WEBSITE [www.uce.ca](http://www.uce.ca)**



## **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 [rmorrison@uuma.org](mailto:rmorrison@uuma.org)  
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



# UCE MAY EVENTS

# 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				<p>1 SHOP 3 - 6 PM</p> <p>7:15 pm Choralis Rehearsal</p>	<p>2 SHOP 9 am - 6 pm</p>	<p>3 SHOP 9 am - 3 pm</p> <p><b>UCE Garage Sale</b></p>
<p>4 10:30 am Service followed by UCE AGM</p>	5	6	7	<p>8 7:15 pm Choralis Rehearsal</p>	<p>9  7:00 pm Beltaine Ritual</p>	<p>10 Concert 7:30 pm</p> <p><b>GATHERING</b> <i>Here</i></p>
<p>11 10:30 am Service</p>	12	13	14	<p>15 7:15 pm Choralis Rehearsal</p>	16	17
<p>18 10:30 am Service</p>	19	20	<p>21 7:15 pm Zoom Board Meeting</p>	<p>22 7:15 pm Choralis Rehearsal</p>	23	24
<p>25 10:30 am Service</p>	26	27	<p>28 6 pm UUs On Tap @ 3 Vikings</p> 	<p>29 7:15 pm Choralis Rehearsal</p>	<p>30 3 pm Dorothy Keeler Celebration of Life</p>	<p>31 6 pm Soul Matters Movie Night</p>