

VOL. 67 ISSUE 04 • APRIL 2026

THE EDMONTON UNITARIAN

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE UNITARIAN CHURCH OF EDMONTON

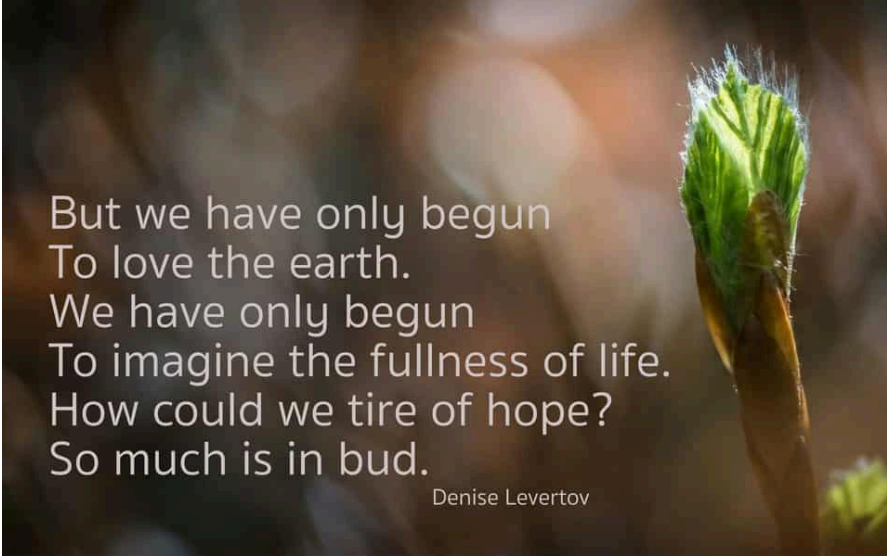
WELCOME TO EMBRACING POSSIBILITY



April Small Group Package:
[CLICK HERE](#)

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But we have only begun
To love the earth.
We have only begun
To imagine the fullness of life.
How could we tire of hope?
So much is in bud.

Denise Levertov

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.

April Services start at 10:30 am

April 5

Chorealis

Embracing Spring's Possibilities

With spring comes tender buds, shy shoots and that irresistible sense of possibility. This Chorealis service is designed to, in the words of Jennifer McGlothin, help us "be, like that first hint of green, renewed by the warm of the sun's rays and ready to emerge with a new energy, ready to face the day".

April 12

Rev. Morrison

Judaism: Stories of a People Full of Possibility

Rev. Rosemary continues her series of talks on the major world religions. As this month marks the sacred time of Passover in the Jewish tradition, it is a great opportunity to explore the beliefs and traditions of Judaism. Don't forget to stay afterwards for our second Sunday Potluck!

April 19

Rev. Morrison

Embracing Life: Staying Open to Possibilities

Adelaide Procter says: 'It is never too late to be what you might have been.'

You won't want to miss this service brought to you by our Right Relations Team. They have some wonderful things in store for us during this interactive family friendly service. Please join Louise Charach, Andrea Graham, Carol Hutchings, and Lynn Wolf, for this time of exploration and learning.

April 26

Rev. Morrison

Embracing UCE's Newest Members: The Possibilities are Endless

In this service led by Rev. Rosemary and the Membership Team, we will officially recognize our newest members. We look forward to this time of welcome and celebration.

Sunday Question to Consider

Are you sure it's too late to do it, or become it?



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=VVB1VWF5ZUd0UGU1ZXQ5U GVxb0tXQT09>

Minister's April Reflection

FLUENT

I would love to live
Like a river flows,
Carried by the surprise
Of its own unfolding.

Quote - John O'Donahue From his book: Conamara Blues

There is so much gratitude in my heart for all of you that contributed so much, worked so hard, and laughed with gusto!

What an amazing evening we had on March 28th! It was full of laughter, fabulous entertainment (WOW - Team Turvey), good food, and so much more!

There are so many of you that helped, I don't even know where to begin. However, I want each and every one of you to know how deeply grateful I am for your participation and enthusiasm. Events such as the Big Splash can only be successful with lots of buy in and help from a lot of people, and you stepped up. Not only did we have fun, we made around \$3000.00!

WE CERTAINLY MADE A BIG SPLASH!

With so much love and gratefulness!
Rev. Rosemary

BIG SPLASH

CANVASS DINNER



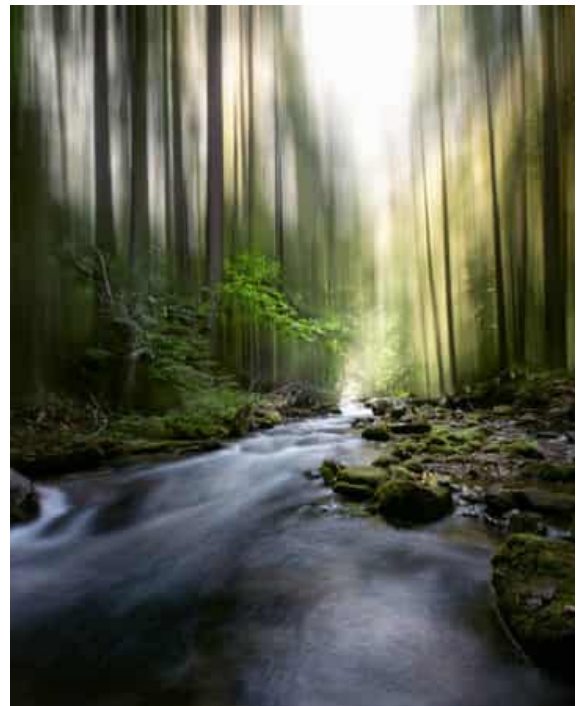


If you have not pledged yet, then do it now with this link please.

This year’s Big Splash canvass dinner was a great success. Thank you to everyone who worked to put the event together and to make it a fun event. What a great way to wind up our annual canvass! By the end of the weekend, we received pledges to meet our canvass budget target or \$150,000. Well done everyone!

We’re still tallying the results which should be ready in a week or so. I will report the final results at the AGM on May 3rd. But for now, we have met our budget target.

We prepare our canvass plan in November, launch canvass in the January newsletter, send out letters to our donors with their tax receipts in February, and then speak in church every Sunday in March to get people to pledge. This year we added the canvass dinner at the end of March to wind up the campaign which really helped to cap off the campaign.



Once March is done, we tally the pledges, complete the acknowledgements, add in any monthly donors that forgot to pledge, and then call anyone that we missed. By the end of the first week in April I sit down and figure out an estimate of next year’s donations based on pledges. If canvass is successful, then we will have enough income for next year’s budget. This year we have met our budget targets already. That’s great!

Thank you to everyone who submitted their 2026 pledges.



Church Business

Annual General Meeting



Join us for the UCE AGM on Sunday, May 3 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 a Board

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

AGM Reports

As the Board and staff begin preparations for our upcoming Annual General Meeting on Sunday, May 3, we're asking all committees, teams, working groups, and clubs to submit their annual reports as soon as possible to the administrator, chadmin@uce.ca.

If you missed getting the 2026 AGM report template, please contact the church office before preparing your report. If you anticipate any difficulty meeting this request or need assistance, reach out and we'll be happy to help.

Reports will be posted on uce.ca as they are received.

Thank you for supporting a smooth and well-organized AGM.

Church Business

Social Justice

This past year, a group of congregants have been meeting to explore the revitalization of the Social Justice committee. This working group has focused on the value and imperative of Social Justice as a foundational philosophy of UU, and as a call to action. We know that many of the congregants are passionate about SJ in their everyday lives and communities, and in the work we do in the Church.

If you are interested in being a part of the Social Justice committee, please reach out to:

Reverend Rosemary Morrison (rmorrison@uuma.org) or Lori Campbell (lac_consulting@icloud.com)

April Sharing Our Abundance: Child Haven International

Our church community encourages all who gather here to grow in generosity of spirit and action. Each month, we share half of our unidentified cash offerings with an organization in the wider community.



Child Haven International is a registered not for profit charity founded in 1985, assisting children and women in developing countries, who are in need of food, education, health care, shelter and clothing, emotional and moral support.



childhaven.ca

Strategic Plan Results are In

From Feb. 22 to Mar. 23, folks were invited to share their hopes for UCE's next 3-5 years via a strategic plan survey.

Here's a summary of what they had to say.

- UCE is currently seen as a welcoming, comfortable community.
- Respondents want it to stay that way while increasing the vibrancy through increased social events, social action and enhanced Sunday services.
- Our Mission, Vision and Covenant of Right Relations still resonate and there wasn't interest in revisiting or tweaking them.
- There is an openness to pragmatic change.



[Survey Analysis Report](#)

What's next?

- ▶ GAT will prioritize goals based on the conversation and survey results to form a draft strategic plan
- ▶ GAT will look for "quick wins" we can get into action right away. We see that many of the desired actions could be bundled to service multiple purposes. For example, a cooking class the day before the Second Sunday Potluck could amp up the potluck and serve as a social event. If some of the food from the class was donated to an outside group or if a group in need was invited to participate, that could be an added social action activity. Got ideas and want to try them? Talk to a GAT member.
- ▶ Mark your calendars for May 31; we'll start the discussion about considering referring to ourselves as something other than a church in a session following the service.

Thanks to everyone who participated in the conversation and the survey. You are helping build a great future for UCE.


— The Governance Advisory Team (Louise Charach, Lynne Turvey, Brandie Moller-Reid, Karen Mills)

Sunday, April 19 | noon to 1:30 pm

**Unitarian Universalism in 30 Seconds or Less
An “elevator speech” workshop**



**What is
Unitarian
Universalism?**



**What do
UUs believe?**

Those are questions that most UUs are asked at some point. When asked, do you freeze? Do you start listing off things we're not, but would rather say what are?

To respond to such questions, it can be helpful to develop an “Elevator Speech”: a short response you can deliver in the length of an average elevator ride, approximately 30 seconds to two minutes.

Following the March 22 service, Communication Team members will guide you through a workshop to create your elevator speech. The statement you will create is not just to tell others, but also to clarify for yourself what your faith means to you.

Light lunch will be provided

Second Sunday



Potluck

All are welcome!

April 12

It doesn't need to be fancy or homemade—and if it's "been a week," just bring yourself, a friend, and your appetite. This new potluck tradition is all about good food and even better company. Come for spiritual growth and stay for a shared meal as we build community together.

We'd also welcome a few volunteers for a quick clean-up afterward to keep things running smoothly.

Capture UCE in Action!

The Communications and Marketing Team is working on a new website for UCE. We want to show what a welcoming, interesting, busy group we are at UCE and we need your help. Specifically, we need your PHOTOS.

- Attending the potluck? Take some photos!
- Hanging out with the walking group? Snap a pic or two.
- Feeling love in the community? Capture it with a click of your phone.

No special expertise or equipment is needed. Just you and your cell phone, catching our community in action. Email photos to chadmin@uce.ca (unless you have a lot, then please drop them off on a USB)

Want to Go for a Walk?



The walking group is continuing as weather permits, every Friday morning. We mostly do "out and back" walks and separate into faster and slower walkers, so you can walk at your own pace and distance. Contact Jon Littlefield at jon.littlefield@yahoo.com to be added to the email list.

UUs on Tap! April 29 | 6 pm Three Vikings

Join Rev. Rosemary for a warm April gathering as early spring begins to show itself—a simple chance to connect with fellow UUs and nourish heart and spirit. We look forward to seeing you there!

10713 124 St NW



FOR APRIL'S SMALL
GROUP PACKAGE:

[CLICK HERE](#)

The Soul Matters Small Groups Program is a small, welcoming group that meets monthly for two hours to explore life, faith, and meaning. Each session centers on a monthly theme, with spiritual practices, reflection questions, and resources that inspire growth and deepen everyday faith.

In Person Group

The in-person group will meet on after Sunday service on April 26. For more information contact the coordinator: Pauline at 780-297-0522 or email: paulinematwood@gmail.com

Online Group

Our online Soul Matters is gathering on Sunday, April 29 at 7pm. Anyone who would like more information or the zoom info can email the online coordinator: Ilara. missg.alias11@gmail.com

Soul Matters Free Movie & Discussion Night

The Testament of Ann Lee
trailer: <https://youtube>

Friday, Apr. 24 @ 6pm
All Are Welcome!

CABARET

PRESENTED BY

Chorealis, choir of the Unitarian Church of Edmonton

WITH SPECIAL GUESTS:

Daylin Jørgensen

Marten Borch

Yvonne Boon



FRIDAY, APRIL 17

7 P.M.

UNITARIAN CHURCH OF EDMONTON

(ENTRANCE IS ON THE SOUTH SIDE)

10804-119 STREET NW

TICKETS: \$20

**AT THE DOOR,
FROM CHOREALIS SINGERS**

OR

CALL 780-454-8073

UCE's

Garage Sale Coming Soon!

Donations!

- Bring small donations that will fit in a box each Sunday after church to the Nursery.
- Bring your larger donations starting on Saturday, April 25th.

Volunteer!

- Help price and sort Tuesdays at 10 am and Thursdays at 6:30 pm.
- Watch for sign-up sheets for set-up and sale days later this month.

Let People Know!

- Tell your friends and family about the sale!



GARAGE SALE TIMES:

Thursday April 30th from 4 to 7

Friday May 1st from 10 to 6

Saturday May 2nd from 10 to 2

- Andrew (andrew@misc.ca)

[@reallygreatsite](#)

Embracing Possibility

Adapted from The Power of “What IF” by Heather Vickery
Here are a few tangible ways to embrace Possibility in
your life:

Challenge Your Assumptions -

Reflect on the beliefs or habits you've accepted without question. Are they serving you?

Experiment with Small Changes -

You don't have to overhaul your life overnight. Start with small, low-stakes experiments.

Prioritize Your Peace -

In a world that glorifies busyness, choose peace. Focus on what brings you calm and contentment.

Lead with Joy -

Joy doesn't have to be a rare or fleeting emotion—it can be a guiding force.

Keep the Portal to Hope Open

Choose to believe in possibility, even when it feels hard.

Join the Right Relations Team Sunday, April 19 to Explore Possibility
<https://www.uce.ca/healthy-relations-policies/>



CUC News

For the Latest News:
<https://cuc.ca/enews-march-2026/>

Events

**Rising Together: Unitarian Universalists
of Colour: Wed | Apr 8 | 5:30 pm MT**
<https://cuc.ca/events/rising-together>

**Congregational Conversations: Shifting
From Problem to Opportunity**
Thurs | Apr 16 | 11 am MT
<https://cuc.ca/events/congregational-conversations>

Sat | Apr 18 | 11 am MT
<https://cuc.ca/events/congregational-conversations-2026-april-2>

**Dismantling Barriers: Positionality and
Economics**
Thurs | Apr 23 | 5 pm MT
<https://cuc.ca/events/dismantling-barriers-positionality-economics>



RAMP! Reciprocal Annual Mentorship Program
April Session: UUism and Social Enterprise
Sat | Apr 25 | 11 am MT
<https://cuc.ca/events/ramp-april-2026/1777122000/1777127400/>

Join Shaun Loney as he explores why underused church buildings are not problems but actually opportunities in disguise, particularly for Unitarian Universalist communities whose values align with those of the majority of Canadians. Shaun will share how congregations can reenergize and redefine themselves by engaging the social enterprise movement. He will offer examples of social enterprises operating in or by communities of faith. Participants will also learn how to assess whether their property is a good fit for redevelopment and explore pathways forward for congregations with both high capacity and limited volunteer resources.

CUC Annual General Meeting, Saturday, May 23, 2026



<https://cuc.ca/events/cuc-annual-general-meeting-2026/1779541200/1779553800/>



Pastoral Care: Come Join Us!

The Pastoral Care Team could use some some volunteers to act as connectors for any of the following:

- Transporter
- Nourisher
- Visitor
- Handihelps

Contact your Caring Connections Dispatcher Gloria Krenbrenk at 780-668-9166 gkrenbrenk@gmail.com or use the Pastoral Care request form on the UCE website.

“I acted and, behold, service was joy”

Rabindranath Tagore



Could You Use Some Help?

If you're going through a tough time or just need someone to talk to, please don't hesitate to reach out. We're here to support you with care, a listening ear or a ride — whatever you need. You're not alone, and we'd be honored to walk alongside you!

Contact Gloria Krenbrenk our Caring Connections Dispatcher at 780-668-9166 or at 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.

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.

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



Scammers may pose as UCE staff or members asking for gift cards or personal info. This is a scam.

UCE will never make such requests. Report suspicious messages to the church office.

THE EDMONTON UNITARIAN IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY
 by the Unitarian Church of Edmonton Volume 68 No. 02
 10804 - 119 Street NW, Edmonton, AB T5H 3P2

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PEOPLE FINDER

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President	Lynne Turvey
Vice President	Sue Lynch
Treasurer, Finance Ctte Chair	Andrew Mills, andrew@misc.ca
Trustees	Gerard Hayduk, Wendy Smith and Declan Kiely
Minister	Rev. Rosemary Morrison, rmorrison@uuma.org
Church Office	Janet Polkovsky, chadmin@uce.ca
Head Teller	David Rae
Chorealis Choir	Gordon Ritchie, Karen Mills
Building and Grounds	Alan Boyle
Communications	Karen Mills

UCE EVENTS APRIL 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2 7 pm Chorealis Rehearsal	3 10 am Walking Group	4
5 10:30 am Service	6	7	8	9 7 pm Chorealis Rehearsal	10 10 am Walking Group	11
12 10:30 am Service • Second Sunday Potluck • Growing in Spirit	13	14 1 pm Communications Meeting	15 1 pm Membership Meeting 7:15 Board Meeting (on Zoom)	16 7 pm Chorealis Rehearsal	17 10 am Walking Group 7 pm Chorealis Cabaret	18
19 10:30 am Service • Elevator Speech Workshop	20	21	22	23 7 pm Chorealis Rehearsal	24 10 am Walking Group 6 pm Soul Matters Movie Night	25
26 10:30 am Service • Soul Matters Grp 7 pm Soul Matters (on Zoom)	27	28	29 6 pm UUs On Tap @ Three Vikings	30 7 pm Chorealis Rehearsal		