

The Quest

September 2018 Services: Welcome!



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September 2 Welcoming Questions

This service offers the opportunity to explore the importance of questioning in our faith tradition. There will also be opportunities to ask questions practical and/or theological. As this is both a holiday weekend and the Pride Parade day, the service will be casual and perhaps end a little early, so we can join the Pride Parade.

Service Facilitators: Rev Debra Faulk and Mary Anna Louise Kovar, Board of Trustees

September 9 Welcome Back

As we reconstitute our community after the summer meanderings we use water and its universal qualities as a metaphor. You are invited to bring water in recognition of your summer experiences be they in your own backyard, a favorite local spot, or travels.

Service Facilitators: Rev Debra Faulk & Jeb Gaudet

Music: Music Director Jane Perry and UUphonia

September 16 Transylvanian Welcome

The roots of Unitarianism as an identified faith tradition came from 450 years ago in Transylvania. This summer our minister went on a pilgrimage to explore these roots and the how Unitarianism is lived today in its birthplace.

Service Facilitators: Rev Debra Faulk & Lynn Nugent

Music: Music Director Jane Perry

September 23 We Are All Treaty People

It is said that we are all treaty people as we engage the work of addressing the Canadian historical relations with her indigenous population. This is a core understanding as we work toward trust building and reconciliation with our Indigenous siblings.

Service Facilitators: Rev Debra Faulk & Pam Rickey

Music: Music Director Jane Perry and UUphonia

September 30 Rites of Passage: Welcome and Transition

Rites of Passage honour transitions in individual lives. Some such as infant naming/dedication, marriage and home blessings are significant in welcoming new relationships and some recognize changes in relationship (crowning/saging, celebrations of life, memorials, retirements)..

This morning is a collaboration with our minister, our Lay Chaplains and the Lay Chaplains Committee where we will explore the significance of rites of passage.

Service Facilitators: Rev Debra Faulk & Lay Chaplain Team

Music: Music Director Jane Perry

Services are 60 - 75 minutes and are live streamed into Wickenden Social Hall.



Debra's Deliberations



In July, I was privileged to participate in the UUMA (UU Ministers Association) pilgrimage and retreat in Transylvania. The journey began in Kolozsvár, the city where Francis David first shared his message of Unitarianism and religious freedom 450 years ago. His message was embraced by King John Sigismund who declared the Edict of Torda, the first recorded document proclaiming religious freedom.

We were in Kolozsvár for the Hungarian Unitarian Church (HUC) Annual General Assembly, special this year because of the Torda450 celebrations. We celebrated the dedication of the renovated Bishop's house, the new House of Religious Freedom. You can find much more about these celebration here:

<https://www.uua.org/international/torda450>

We visited many towns and villages, some with populations that are 95% Unitarian, getting a glimpse of how Unitarianism is lived today while witnessing 450 years of history. Hungarian Unitarianism is practiced quite differently than how its done in Canada; I look forward to sharing some of this with you in Sunday services during the year.

Some of our time was spent participating in the first retreat between the UUMA and ULOSZ (Hungarian Unitarian Ministers Association). It was profound to hear how ministry is practiced in Transylvania, to explore our commonalities and the vast differences. They shared with us what Unitarianism means to them. There is a greater commonality of understanding amongst them than I experience among colleagues here in North America. There was even a concert by a Unitarian "Praise Band" of younger Unitarian ministers performing original tunes in the church in Dârjiu, a fortified church, now a UNESCO World Heritage site. <http://tinyurl.com/y88a34oz>

We finished our pilgrimage in the city of Deva where Francis David had been imprisoned and died in the citadel. Within the walls of the citadel there is a prison cell with a tombstone honoring the memory of Francis David. We participated in a brief worship service there which included singing Spirit of Life. Personally, this is one of the most sacred places I have ever been. That song has a new depth of meaning for me now. I have been transformed by the Transylvanian experience, perhaps in some way born again, to the gift and responsibility of our faith tradition.

One of the colleagues on the pilgrimage, Rev Darrick Jackson, wrote this blessing as part of his personal reflection on the trip and affirmed my sharing it with you:



*Holy One of blessing, Spirit of journey and transformation,
May we continue to learn.
May we continue to have experiences that challenge us and helps
us grow.
May we approach each day with open hearts and minds,
Greeting the day as a new adventure.
May we be transformed by these experiences
Into our best and extraordinary selves.
Blessed Be.*

Please contact Debra directly to chat or arrange an appointment:

debra@unitarianscalgary.org or 403-702-6486



♪ UpBeat News with Jane Perry ♪

Welcome to a new year of music-making at Calgary Unitarians! Whether you love to sing, volunteer, or sit in the audience and cheer, there are myriad ways to be involved with music in our building. Info: Music Director Jane Perry at jane@calgaryunitarians.ca.

Choirs, Choirs, Choirs! Calgary Unitarians offers three different choirs as part of its music programme. If you love to sing, then you've come to the right place!

UUphonia

This is our mixed-voice, non-auditioned choir. All interested singers are welcome to join us --- just show up and we'll be happy to greet you warmly! First rehearsal of the new season will be on Thursday, September 6, 2018 at 7:30pm in Panabaker Hall.

Chor Vida

This is an auditioned choir, designed for experienced choristers with good sight-reading ability. The group rehearses on an as-needed basis. First rehearsal on Tuesday, October 23, 2018 at 6:30pm, as we prepare to sing at the Remembrance Day service.

Coffee Choi.

This is singing for everyone, and everyone gets to sing the tune! Three Tuesday afternoons --- Oct 9, 16, and 23 in Wickenden Hall. Come at 1:30pm for coffee, cookies and conversation, and sing from 2:00pm to 3:00pm.

We are proud to be the rehearsal home of four wonderful community choirs. They are part of our larger Calgary Unitarians family. All of them will begin their rehearsals in September.

One Voice Chorus

This is an auditioned choir for LGBTQ2+ singers and allies.

OVC is looking for new tenors in particular; auditions will be on Sun Sept 9. Monday rehearsals. www.onevoicechorus.ca

Vocal Latitudes

This is a non-auditioned world-music choir. Tuesday rehearsals. www.vocalitudes.org

BarberEllas

This is an auditioned barbershop ensemble for queer gals and pals. Wednesday rehearsals. barberellascalgary@gmail.com

Calgary Renaissance Singers & Players

This is an auditioned early-music choir. CRSP is looking for new basses in particular; auditions will be on Sun Sept 9. Wednesday rehearsals. www.renaissance-singers.com

Silent Movie Night! Friday, October 19, 2018 at 7:30pm in Wickenden Hall. Come and see a classic black-and-white silent film, with live film score provided by pianist Jane Perry and sound-effects guy Dave Bradt. Tickets will be available for sale starting on Sunday, September 23 at coffee hour.





Religious Exploration Program

Our Whole Lives -OWL

Grade K-1 Class Starting Soon!

Grade 7-8 Winter 2019



Calgary Unitarians are proud to offer Our Whole Lives (OWL), a series of comprehensive, age appropriate, non-religious sexuality education courses. These courses consist of 8 sessions and a parent orientation evening. The sessions feature honest, accurate, inclusive information about how sexuality changes lives. It dismantles stereotypes and assumptions, builds self-acceptance and self-esteem, while fostering healthy relationships.

K-1 Classes Include:

- Parent Orientation
- Our Wonderful Bodies - Part 1
- Our Wonderful Bodies - Part 2
- Healthy Bodies, Safe Bodies
- Families
- Families and Feelings
- Babies and Families
- Birth of a Baby
- Celebrations!

The cost of the K-1 course is \$133 including materials and there are subsidy and payment plans available. There will be an information session on September 10th at 6:00 pm.

If you have questions or would like to attend, please email owl@calgaryunitarians.ca

Minimum 10 participants needed to run class.



4 Others 4 September Habitat for Humanity Interfaith Build

The goal is \$ 1 million to build 12 units.
Currently, \$750,000 has been raised. For more
information about the Interfaith Build, go here:
[https://fundraise.habitatsouthernab.ca/calgary/
events/interfaith-build-days/e88187](https://fundraise.habitatsouthernab.ca/calgary/events/interfaith-build-days/e88187)

4 Others is a social justice outreach program that financially supports non-profit initiatives that align with our values. Each month, half the unidentified and all the identified money collected at church services will be donated to that month's designated non-profit/organization. The selected organization must have charitable status.



Anniversary Celebration Dinner Friday October 12th 6:00 pm

This year marks the 450th anniversary of Unitarianism, the 60th anniversary of this congregation and 50 years in our building – come celebrate with a Hungarian Dinner and evening activities. See eNews and October Quest for details.

A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words



With that in mind, we'd like to paint a picture of Calgary Unitarians in action for our upcoming new website. The plan is to use photos that have been included in past issues of the Quest and eNews.

People shown in the photos will not be identified.

If you were featured in one of these photos and don't want it used on the website, please contact Jane Ebborn at jane.ebborn@gmail.com or at 403-283-7162 right away. Stay tuned for more details, including a release form confirming consent for publishing congregational photos.

CUU's gardeners in action. Looks like another fabulous crop!



The Long Way Home

Calgary Unitarians have met in many different places over the years and this is a peek at the story of their journey.

In July 1909, the Calgary Herald advertised three Unitarian services to be held in the **Arcade Theatre** on 8th Avenue East, to be conducted by Rev. Frank Wright Pratt (who had been selected by the British & Foreign Unitarian Association and the American Unitarian Association as their missionary for Western Canada.) During the rest of that year and 1910, Rev. Pratt held regular Sunday afternoon forums in the downtown **Empire Theatre**, adding a religious dimension to the forums by reading and interpreting Bible passages.

By 1911, Rev. Pratt and the small Unitarian congregation were using the **Globe Theatre** for meetings and in the fall of 1911 they were able to dedicate their own hall of "simple Greek design" as the Calgary Herald called it, at 917 14th Avenue South. It was called **Unity Hall** and is still standing, now attached to the present Full Gospel Church.

In 1951 after about a 30 year hiatus, a group of people met at the **Old YWCA** on 12th Avenue South, hoping to start up a new Unitarian congregation. It lasted about a year, Dr. Bob Wickenden was part of this group.

In July 1956 Rev. Charles Eddis, the Unitarian minister in Edmonton came down to address a group of about 50 prospective Unitarians. This meeting took place at the **Palliser Hotel** and this time the group held together, and a constitution was adopted, and officers were elected.

The moves continued with meetings held at the **Manning-Eggleston Lumber** office on 8th Avenue South and several other locations in the downtown area. By the early 1960's they were meeting in the conservatory of MOUNT ROYAL COLLEGE on the 7th Avenue South with the Church School meeting across the street using the first two floors of the present **Kerby Center**.

Finally, in 1968 **Mount Royal College** could no longer accommodate the congregation and they met for a short time in the IOOF BUILDING at 17 Center Street South while looking for a building to buy.

1968 bring us also to the purchase of **Crescent Heights United Church** and the place we now call home!

Abridged from notes written by the late Helen Green and held with the History & Archives collection of the Calgary Unitarian Church.



Dine at DinnerFest This Fall!



We are organizing a new, fun fundraiser and community building event this fall called DinnerFest. Instead of eating out at restaurants this fall, come dine with Unitarians at DinnerFest – enjoy great company and help a great cause. Funds raised from this will help both the general revenue fund and our new visual identity project.

DinnerFest will feature superb dinner parties offering a wide variety of cuisines. Some of our dinners themes will be French, Italian, Malaysian vegetarian, Northern Canadian and Hungarian. Check out the complete list of these October-December

dinners on the Wickenden Bulletin board Sept 8-23rd. Each dinner will have a specified number of spots that can be purchased for a set price per person. People financial constraints are welcome to bid future volunteer hours up to a maximum of 4 hours per person, valued at \$15 per hour. Just indicate this on the signup sheet.

You can pay for your dinner spots by dropping off a cheque payable to Calgary Unitarians in the DinnerFest mail slot in the office during September or you can pay in person September 23 and September 29 during coffee hour.

Come join us for some gourmet feasts and fun times. Both Simon and Jane are hosting dinners, (Simon French and Jane Italian), and eagerly await the camaraderie around our dinner tables this fall. Come join us!

Questions - email dinnerfest@calgaryunitarians.ca or call 403-283-7162.

Jane Ebborn
Simon Dunn

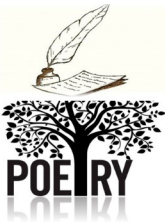
A Fun Friday Event Sponsored by Green Sanctuary: Poetry Reading and a Movie

Friday, October 5th at 5:00 pm

HeartWood: Poems For the Love of Trees

Call of the Forest: The Forgotten Wisdom of Trees

Join Calgary's Poet Laureate, Sheri-D Wilson and others, as we launch our new anthology, Heartwood, with over 100 poems from all over the country, in support of the Call of the Forest initiative protecting trees in Canada. The League of Canadian Poets is organizing launches across Canada along with a screening of **Call of the Forest: The Forgotten Wisdom of Trees**. See Cassy Welburn, organizer (Books available for sale at the event)





It's PUB NIGHT!

When: September 5th from 7:00-9:30pm

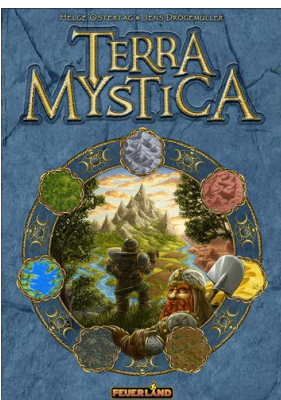
Where: Kensington Pub- 207 10A St. NW

www.kensingtonpub.com

Come out for a night of great conversation at one of Calgary's most iconic pubs. The menu is very inclusive, complete with gluten free and vegetarian options.

Pub Nights are held on the first Wednesday of every month.

Hope to see YOU there!



Young Adults Board Games Day

When: September 15th from 2:00-6:00pm

Where: Calgary Unitarians 1703 1st NW

There isn't a better way to connect with the young adults in your community than through some games, snacks, conversation and laughter! We will have all of this and more. Please feel free to bring a favourite board game and a snack or drink to share.

Truth, Healing, and Reconciliation Engagement



Upcoming events:

September 26th - A group visit to the Glenbow Museum to view the art exhibit: *Alex Janvier: Modern Indigenous Master*. See the sign-up sheet on the "Church Activities" bulletin board.

September 23rd - "Keeping the Circle Strong" Aboriginal Awareness Week Calgary's Family Day Festival & Powwow at the former Indian Village, South end of Stampede Park. See the sign-up sheet on the "Community Events" bulletin board.

September 29th - Blackfoot-guided tour of the Blackfoot permanent exhibit at Glenbow Museum. More information and a sign-up sheet to come.

Fall/Winter/Spring 2018-19: Group reads: *Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Teachings of Plants* by Robin Wall Kimmerer and *The Inconvenient Indian: a Curious Account of Native People in North America* by Thomas King.



Adult Religious Education: Fall Programs

Summer is often a chance for relaxing, considering our values and beliefs and perhaps lining up new programs or volunteer projects we will take on in the fall. Perhaps consider joining us for one or all of the following ARE programs!

- ***Dances of Universal Peace:*** Sunday, September 30, 2 to 4:30 pm. Sing and dance to spiritual chants and songs of peace.
- ***Death is not an Option:*** Wednesday evenings, 7 to 9 pm. October 3rd to October 31st. A practical and heart centred look at death and dying while living our lives to the fullest. We will discuss being prepared for illness and death, including having a will, a personal directive, enduring power of attorney and end of life ceremony plan. Being prepared also includes looking death in the face — understanding the dying processes, end of life care options including medically assisted dying, and coming to terms with our mortality — physically, psychologically and spiritually.
- ***Truth, Healing and Reconciliation (THR):*** Tuesday October 2, 7:00 – 9:00 pm. Introductory Session using the Canadian Unitarian Council's THR Reflection Guides. We will explore the CUC's and our response to the national Truth & Reconciliation Commission. This session will also determine our next steps depending on the group's interest.
- ***Turn of the Wheel:*** Saturday, September 22, 9:30 to 12 noon. The gift of time to yourself to listen to your inner voice. What would you like to shift and change in your life over the next quarter (or to mid-December)?

Questions? Ideas for a future program?

Contact Wendy Benson for more details: adultprograms@calgaryunitarians.ca

Look for more information on upcoming programs in the Quest and eNews.

Fun Fridays Are Coming!!!!

This year, starting in October, there will be something happening on most Friday nights. Some of the ideas include potlucks, movie night, games night, karaoke - a time to build relationships, socialize. Watch Quests and enews for coming events. Do you have ideas? Want to be part of planning and coordination?

Contact funfridays@calgaryunitarians.ca

Young Adult Dinner Meet & Greet

Friday, September 28 5:30 pm

Rev Debra will host a dinner for those under 35 to meet each other, mostly to socialize and discuss what sort of activities might be most meaningful. If you are interested or have questions, please email or call her so we know how much food to prepare.



Huge appreciation to those who supported Hendrik and the community through the tragedy of Frances' death. Brandis and choristers, Mary Anna Louise, Lisa, Marie and so many others. We truly are a beloved community!

Thanks to all the outstanding cooks and helpers who made our annual Stampede Breakfast such a roaring success!

Jeff Grutz and Dick Wilson for their great assistance in hanging some of our new signs and for repainting the large freestanding sign on the east side. Arno Burama was quite helpful here, even volunteering time outside his usual schedule of paid hours.

Jane Ebbern for outside painting on, amongst others, one of the hottest days of the year

Dick Wilson, Eric Leavitt, Duff Bond, and Doug Engh for various building improvements, inside and out.

Thanks to the hard work of these dedicated volunteers, our building exterior is looking a lot smarter these days!

This is just a sampling of the many people who contribute in numerous ways to our community. When you catch someone in the act of kindness and service please share the info by emailing Kudos@calgaryunitarians.ca.

We Need Your Help: Volunteer Sign Up Made Easy!

Have you ever wondered how things run so smoothly on Sunday mornings? The coffee is always on, the warm welcome you receive upon arrival, things are all set up and ready to go, and the ushers handing you the order of service and showing you to a seat. It's all managed and run by volunteers, people just like you! If you haven't had the opportunity to volunteer, would like to do so, or wish to do more, please visit our volunteer sign up page online. We're using SignUp.com.

Here's how it works in 3 easy steps:

- 1) Click on one of the links below to see our SignUp.
- 2) Review the options listed and choose the spot(s) you like.
- 3) Sign up! It's Easy - you will NOT need to register an account or keep a password on SignUp.com.

Coffee Prep or Cleanup: There are two separate signups - <http://signup.com/go/ngfHRvc>

Ushers - <http://signup.com/go/LLfnBjt>

Greeters - <http://signup.com/go/tDxnMEG>

Service Setup - <http://signup.com/go/xAYQCXZ>

We'll be happy and excited to see your name beside a job for any of the Sundays this year!

~ Eric, Leslie, Donna, and Brandis.



Plan for Thanksgiving: Order Your Co-Op Cards Now!

There truly is strength in numbers! The more Co-Op gift cards we order, the more money is made for Calgary Unitarians (CUU). This is the easiest, most efficient way to make a financial contribution to Our Beloved Community. When we spend \$5000 or less on cards, CUU receives 4% of that total. When the CUU order is between \$5000 - \$9999, 6% of the total goes towards our budget.

And when \$10,000 or more is spent, Calgary Unitarians will net a whopping 9% of that gift card order. Now that is a LOT of dough!

We welcome postdated cheques or consider increasing your purchases in September for hosting fall dinners and especially Thanksgiving! of barbequing, These cards are convenient, easy to use, and helps support the good work that Calgary Unitarians does in the community. It is truly a win-win proposition! Co-op has cards for different purchases, one type of card to purchase groceries and gas; a different one for purchases at Co-op Wine Spirits Beer locations.

Place your **September Gift Card order** Sunday, September 2nd

Pick up your order the following **Sunday**, September 9th

We accept cheques, cash, or e-transfer!

These gift cards can be used either as gifts or for your own purchases. Please specify at the time of ordering which type of gift cards you are requesting.

How it works:

1. On the first Sunday of the month, using cash, cheque, or e-transfer place your order at the table in Wickenden Hall before or after the service. If you are not going to be at church on the first Sunday of the month, you can leave post-dated cheques in the Co-op Card/Fruit Cake Cheques mail slot in the administration office.
2. The gift cards will be distributed on the second Sunday of the month. If you are unable to pick up your cards on that day, you can collect it on the next Sunday.
3. Use the gift cards like cash when you make purchases at Calgary Co-op. You receive immediate cash discounts with gas purchases that can be used in Co-op grocery stores; cards must be redeemed inside the gas bar when purchasing gas. When you become a member of the Calgary Co-op you also receive dividends at the end of each year; it's just that easy!

Any questions? Contact: Ev Dewar ev.dewar@kogawa.com, Sheila Ward sggward@shaw.ca,
Alex Russell itfromblighty@gmail.com



How to Reach Our Staff

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Grow in Wisdom
Deepen Relationships
Act for Justice

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Publishing the Quest

The Quest is published 11 times per year by Calgary Unitarians. Electronic copies are available at
www.unitarianscalgary.org/newsletter/.

Submissions of articles, photographs, and event announcements are encouraged. Questions about the Quest, please email:

quest@unitarianscalgary.org.

The Quest Deadline is the 15th of every month except for July.

ENEWS

The ENEWS is normally published via email once a week on Wednesday. Material for the ENEWS must be submitted by Tuesday midnight. If you would like to receive the ENEWS, please email
enews@unitarianscalgary.org

Booking Rooms

As our facility gets busier it is important that if rooms are needed they are booked in advance. Space can be reserved either by filling out the online booking form found here:
<http://tinyurl.com/ybq27pq6>, by contacting the Administrator at 403-276-2436 or
office@unitarianscalgary.org

Lay Chaplains: Mary-Anna Louise Kovar and Beverly Webber

Our Lay Chaplains are trained to perform rites of passage, such as weddings, funerals/memorial services, child dedications, etc. They are available to provide such services for a fee to the wider community. (Services for Calgary Unitarians members are provided by the minister.) Our lay chaplains can be contacted by calling 403-276-2436 or via email: laychaplains@unitarianscalgary.org.

The Caring Team

The Caring Team provides support to the members, friends, and families of the congregation. If life has you stressed because of illness, hospitalization, moving, we can help. If you have something to be celebrated, such as a graduation, marriage or new child, we are there with you. We are all part of the Caring Team! Need support, have a concern, or want to be of service? Contact caring@unitarianscalgary.org