



Camp Sasamat 2016, more pictures on page 5.

**Informal
Summer Services
and Gatherings**

We offer informal services over the summer, at various venues. Regular Sunday worship services and Religious Exploration classes will resume on September 11, 2016 at Sapperton Pensioners' Hall in New Westminster.

**JUL 17 Poetry! Prose! Music!
Sunday, July 17, 11 am**

Listen, read, or play at an informal service outside on the patio (or in the Gathering Room) at The Astoria, 2245 Kelly Ave. in Port Coquitlam (Denis Probst's home). Bring your own writing or someone else's. Entertain us with a musical instrument. There is coffee and tea available for a donation, or bring your own beverage. We will have a light potluck lunch after the service. If you would like to read or play, please let Marilyn know you're

coming, so she can do a little planning. Marilyn Medén 604-869-6797, m.j.meden@telus.net.

**AUG 13 New Westminster Pride
Street Festival
Saturday, August 13,
3 pm to 8 pm**

Come visit the Beacon table on Columbia Street in New Westminster. Sit with us for a while and talk to people who stop with questions. Contact Sue Sparlin to sign up for a shift at the table between 2 pm and 9 pm. Set up the booth from 2-2:45 pm; pack up the booth from 8-9 pm.

**AUG 14 Sunday Worship in the
Park
Sunday, August 14, 11 am**

We are all unique and precious. However you identify, and wherever you are on your spiritual and personal journey, you are welcome. Join us for a gentling, a quieting and a deepening time under the trees. Location: Tipperary Park, New Westminster, cars

can enter from 4th Street off Royal Avenue, parking on Fourth Street, meet at the Friendship Garden.

**AUG 21 Music in the Summer
Sunday, August 21,
10:30 am**

Come join us at the Lundervilles' to sing hymns, old favourites and new, or bring your instrument and play along. There is no audition for singers or players, we welcome you as you are. If you've hungered for more than three hymns at a service and would be just as happy singing as listening to a sermon on a beautiful August morning, this is the service for you. If you don't know all our hymns, it's a wonderful opportunity to get comfortable with a few more of our musical treasures. Please join us after the service for beverages and conversation and a potluck lunch. Call Peggy Lunderville for any questions, further info, or address: 604-522-3001.

Minister's Message



In contemplating what joy means to me this past month, I have realized that what brings me and many others is joy in serving. Thinking about what others need, creatively meeting those needs by helping others to help themselves, or by providing what they cannot, is service. It's a little more complex than

being generous or thoughtful. The joy of serving others is a deep joy when one puts another's needs before one's own, when one humbles one's self to the needs of another.

Many of you are caregivers, as mothers, fathers, and/or children of aging parents. The caregiver is a person who responds from either duty or love to the immediate and crucial needs of another. There is the parent of an ill child who sits up all night in emergency, or the adult child of an aging parent who bathes and feeds them. This care-giving is for the most part invisible, if not taken for granted. It is also an opportunity for deep spiritual growth, requiring commitment, patience, ingenuity, kindness, humour and

love. A professional caregiver is not required to be motivated by love, although many are. A personal caregiver, a member of the family or a devoted friend are moved by love, are held in place by love. This deepening of love is also spiritual deepening, it is joy.

As the preparations for the arrival of the refugee family ramp up, I see and hear how many of you are offering to serve their needs. I see you put your own needs aside—giving your time, your energy and your thoughtfulness so that this family might have a better life. There may be times when you are called upon to do more than you thought you could, when your patience is challenged, or your expectations need to be released for the greater good. These are challenges that we can anticipate and if we humble ourselves, truly get our needs out of the way, we will deepen our understanding of both service and joy.

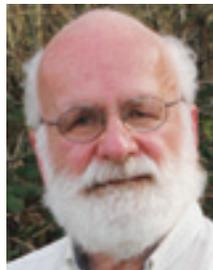
May this summer be filled with the delight and deepening of a life lived from joy.

—Rev. Debra Thorne

Board Bitz



Audrey Taylor,
Co-President



Terry McComas,
Co-President

finishing and in looking forward to the year ahead. The Board will meet again on Sunday, August 28th, in the afternoon. If you are at all curious about these Board meetings, please call Rev. Debra and let her know you would like to attend.

On Saturday, September 10, we will hold our annual Leadership Retreat. You will get more information closer to the date, but now would be a good time to book that day off on your calendar. Everyone is invited.

Have a great summer, everyone! Perhaps we will see each other at the

singing service at the Lundervilles' or at the poetry service at the Astoria.

—Audrey Taylor

The Board had its last meeting of this church year on June 12th at Helen McVey's lovely condo.

As usual, there was much to do, both in looking back at the year we are

CONNECT
With Compassion & Respect

INSPIRE
Learning & Spiritual Growth

TRANSFORM
Through Joy & Justice



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Unitarian
Church**

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info@beaconunitarian.org

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**Deadline for the September issue of
The Beacon: August 15th, 2016**

Syrian Family Arrives!

Beacon entered a new dimension of its burgeoning life on Monday, June 20, when we first met our Syrian refugee family. (More accurately, I should say “re-entered”, as three prominent Beacon families privately sponsored two refugees, some years ago.) Some of us had enjoyed the privilege of having phoned or Facebooked “our” family earlier, and so first tendrils of relationship were already reaching out.

Our first glimpse of one another was at 3:00 pm, following a flight from Paris that arrived late and then three hours of meetings with Canadian Border Services Agency. At first, I was astonished that, with all of the scrutiny to which the United Nations, RCMP, Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS), Health Canada, Immigration, Revenue and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) and the Jordanian government had already focused on them, that any unasked

questions would remain. How naive I am. But then I learned that the delay was more due to the number of Middle-Eastern passengers disembarking at the same time.

What excitement! Our hearts all near-bursting with anticipation and joy at seeing the folk on the other side of the glass, we were soon together. Our welcome sign—in English and Arabic—was unfurled, gifts were presented, photos snapped, hands shaken and bear hugs squeezed.

Our new exhausted friends were scooped up and whisked to their new home in New Westminster, where we provided a brief orientation, while they all longingly stole glimpses of their waiting beds. Shortly after, mercy prevailed in our hearts and we allowed them to finally relax, begin to get settled in their new homeland and... ahhhhh... sleep.

I know that all of Beacon is anxious to meet the family. Similarly, they very much look forward to meeting

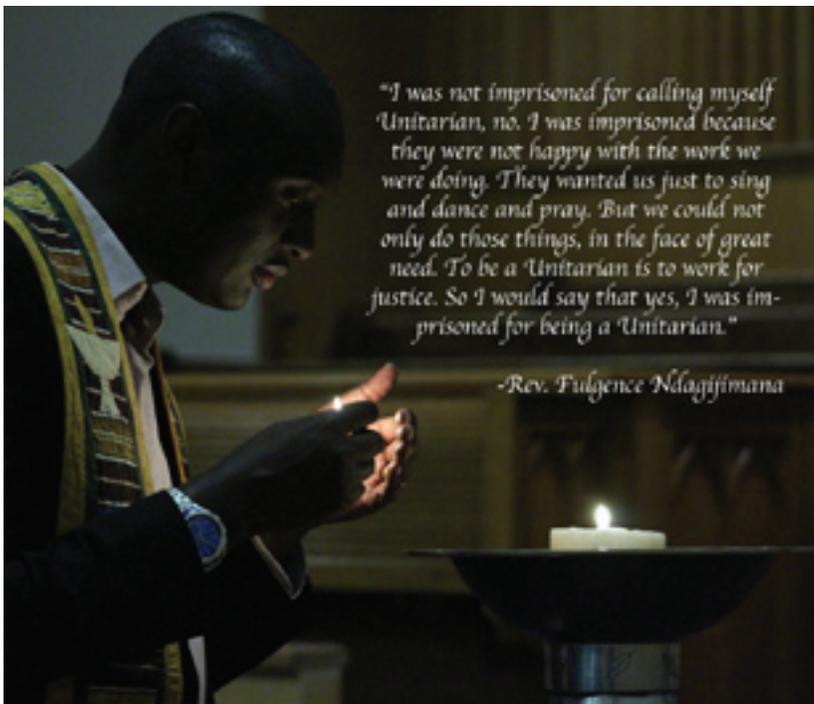
all of us. They, like you, are lovely people. It will be grand.

—Terry McComas

Personal View

This family is so fortunate to have all of this great support. Some people come here alone, with no support, so to come with your family and to be greeted at the airport by a bunch of strangers with friendly faces who want to help you is a pretty amazing thing. I think they are going to be very happy to be welcomed to Canada by all of us and it is going to be a great learning experience for us. I am really impressed with my fellow Beaconites and the way you all have wholeheartedly embraced this family and how you are using your skills to help this family. It is very heartening for all of us to see such an outpouring of goodwill for a family which has experienced so much sadness in the past several years.

—Best wishes, Dan Theal



“I was not imprisoned for calling myself Unitarian, no. I was imprisoned because they were not happy with the work we were doing. They wanted us just to sing and dance and pray. But we could not only do those things, in the face of great need. To be a Unitarian is to work for justice. So I would say that yes, I was imprisoned for being a Unitarian.”

—Rev. Fulgence Ndagijimana

Many of you will have already heard about the the Unitarian Congregation of Saskatoon’s crowdfunding campaign to raise funds for Rev. Fulgence Ndagijimana’s continued ministry in Canada. His story is an incredible one—building a congregation from nothing in one of the poorest countries in the world, wrongful imprisonment, and UUs from around the world banding together to get him released. He was then forced to flee the country, but the Canadian Unitarian Council was able to help him get Canadian soil and support him in successfully claiming refugee status. Now, his journey continues, and Canadian UUs are invited to be a part of it!

- Make a donation! Through Canada Helps, at <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/unitarian-congregation-of-saskatoon/revfulgence/>
- More information (video, etc) can be found at <http://www.faithify.org/projects/revfulgence/>

Let's Connect



Ivy Hubbard (centre) with her family, June 12th, 2016.

Sunday June 12th was a day of celebrations. During the worship service we heard stories about Danae's and Hannah's growing up years at Beacon. After the service we gathered to celebrate Ivy Hubbard's many years at Beacon.

Connections happen as we learn more about each other, especially when we learn while the person is still living. Ivy is one of our special elders. Her rich and full life contributed in so many ways to her family, her larger community and her Beacon church community. At our celebration we learned so much more about Ivy's long life. Ivy's family joined us for the Celebration.

A light lunch was served on special rainbow tablecloths, complete with china teacups, sandwiches, cake and a beautiful orchid gift for Ivy. Joan Morris and Carol Woodworth

told stories about Ivy. Ivy's son John Hubbard shared his gratitude and appreciation for his mother's qualities and admitted that he learned some things about his Mom he didn't know.

We learned that Ivy began volunteering in her youth, as a Guide leader, later as a director at the Vancouver YWCA, and then as a docent at the Vancouver Museum. In the 1980s she was a leader in establishing the Surrey Hospice Society, serving as their first president.

Perhaps you didn't know Ivy has been at Beacon for 33 years, the lifetime of our church? She was a founding member, and can tell you lots of stories about our early history if you ask. Have a look at Ivy's story on the Beacon website under "About Us/Our Members: Personal Stories"

Many Beaconites helped with food preparation, set-up, cleanup, coffee

and tea. As the saying goes, it takes a village—well, our Beacon community—to put on this wonderfully successful event. Thank you everyone for making it so.

Here are some ways you might connect with Beacon friends over the summer:

- attend one of the summer services,
- invite a small group for lunch,
- join the Lunch Bunch, or
- plan a games night or even a picnic in a park.

Keep the connections and plan to share your stories when we gather together on our return from the summer break.

—Joan Morris
for the Connections and
Membership Committee:
Jean Donaldson, Susan Tarras,
Joyce Gudaitis, Phil Campbell and
Rev. Debra Thorne

Camp Sasamat 2016

We enjoyed fabulous weather this year at our annual family camp at Sasamat Lake. Highlights included campfires (complete with s'mores and great music), swimming, kayaking, canoeing, a joyful and challenging choir workshop, climbing workshops and more. To view a fun video of the camp created by Ross and Gabi Harvey of Jazzfly Video Productions visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jPBmlTw9YVvk>.



Campfires



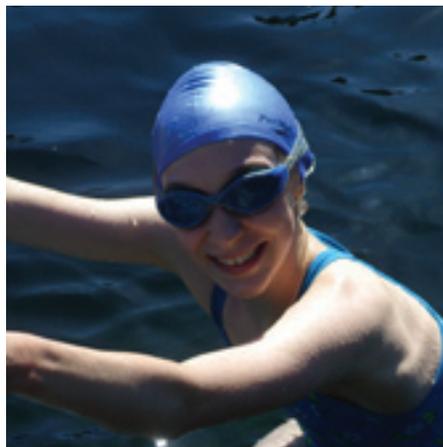
Annual "No-talent" show



Kayaking



Intergenerational worship service



Swimming



Wonderful campfire music



Beautiful sights and sounds



Choir workshop



High ropes course

We invite you to explore these great ways to connect to the Beacon community and yourself!

Soul Matters Groups delve into the monthly sermon themes—“Rootedness” for September. Part personal sharing, part spiritual deepening, the groups meet monthly either at 1 pm or 7 pm on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. Contact Rev. Debra Thorne: minister@beaconunitarian.org.

Humanist Discussion Group meets the last Sunday of the month at 7:30 pm at *The Astoria Retirement Home* (2245 Kelly Avenue, Port Coquitlam) to discuss a wide range of current topics. The next meeting will be on Sunday, September 25. We will be continuing our discussion of these questions: *What is fairness and how should it be applied? To what extent do we value individual fitness vs. cooperative fitness? How should humanists act and advocate in our current economic context?* Contact Marilyn Medén for more information: m.j.meden@telus.net or 604-469-6797.

Join the Beacon Choir for musical fun and skill development. Rehearsals are every Tuesday at 7:30 pm at Miller Park School in Coquitlam. Contact Charlene Dubrule, choir director, at 604-464-3992 or char4myc@shaw.ca. Choir practice will recommence September 6th.

Lunch Bunch meets every Thursday at noon, year-round. Bring your own lunch and share in a lively and topical conversation. Contact Sally Frith: salfrith44@gmail.com.

Attend a Circle Dinner and connect with other Beaconites in a relaxed setting. For details on the next round of dinners, please contact Donna Hamilton: donna-h@telus.net.

Beacon Men's Group: Contact Tyler Vittie at cycleman58@gmail.com.

Book Club meetings will continue during the summer as listed below: **July 28** we will discuss “The Moonstone” by Wilkie Collins, available from the New West Library book club sets.

August 25 we will discuss “The Maltese Falcon” by Dashiell Hammett, also available from the New West Library

book club sets.

Meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm. For location details contact Bev Lock: 604-525-6791 or lockbev@gmail.com.

Attend a ‘Getting to Know U’ session to meet other newcomers and deepen your knowledge of how Beacon functions and what Unitarianism is. Contact Jean Donaldson for future dates: donaldsj@telus.net.

In September, help out on Sunday mornings as a Coffee Host (contact Sue Sparlin: sue.sparlin@shaw.ca), **or sign-up as a Sunday Morning Greeter** (contact Susan Tarras: staras@telus.net).

Save the date!

On Saturday, September 10, we will hold our annual Leadership Retreat. You will get more information closer to the date, but now would be a good time to book that day off on your calendar. Everyone is invited.



Creative Arts Eliot Camp 2016 for UUs and their Friends and Family

Did you know that there is an arts-related summer camp run by The Eliot Institute for UUs from Western Canada and the NW U.S.? “Creative Arts Eliot” takes place at the beautiful Seabeck Conference Center on Hood Canal in Seabeck, Washington. Creative Arts Eliot will take place this summer from Saturday, August 13 through Thursday, August 18, 2016 and will offer opportunities for UUs and friends and relatives to enjoy many wonderful aspects of a multi-generational “camp” experience while also pursuing an interest in one of six artistic or creative endeavors.

Talented presenters will delight and inspire during a five-day camp full of creativity and fun with morning workshops in Photography, Writing, Ukulele, Vocal Music, Painting, and Beginning Craft Brewing (adults only for Brewing; age 12 and up for all others). Campers choose one activity to focus on while at camp, and spend the rest of their time enjoying waterfront fun, sports, games, singing, UU community, cards and board games, evening programs and numerous other planned activities including Firelight and music and an “Extravaganza” on the last night to celebrate everyone’s creativity.

Join us from August 13–18, 2016 for our annual Creative Arts Eliot at Seabeck! For more information, please contact the Eliot Administrator at Eliotregistrar@gmail.com or visit our website at www.eliotinstitute.org.



Sue Sparlin and Glenn Wootton at the New Westminster Pride Street Festival in 2015.

**New Westminster Pride Street Festival
Saturday, August 13, 3 pm to 8 pm**

Come visit the Beacon table on Columbia Street in New Westminster. Sit with us for a while and talk to people who stop with questions. Contact Sue Sparlin for details.



Leo in Concert

Our last chance to enjoy Leo's jazz piano will be on Saturday August 20th! Leo will be playing at the intimate Gallery Bistro on Clarke Street in Port Moody. Dinner at 7 pm, concert at 8 pm. Price: \$30 (with \$15 going to support Leo). To reserve, call 604-937-0998.

Beacon Photo Archives

If you have taken photos of significant moments in Beacon's life, please send them along to Jane Shoemaker, who will include those photos in the Beacon photo archive.

Pursuing poetry over the summer?

Contact Franci Louann at flouann@telus.net. She can see that you get added to the Poetic Justice mailing list and keep you informed of other such events in New Westminster.



Two Mindful Journeys in 2017, for UUs & their friends, led by Rev. Wayne Walder

Peru: Always wanted to experience Machu Picchu? Join us March 25–April 5, 2017. Our journey will be filled with comfortable places to stay, Shamanic conversations, lovely food, water blessings at an old Inca spring, beautiful natural vistas and reflections while sitting on a mountain top.

Portugal/Spain: May 14–24, 2017, Lisbon to Santiago de Compostela. Along the way, we enjoy soulful Fado music, a tile-making workshop, wine, port and culinary tastings, and a bit of a walk on the Camino. Imagine cruising down the Douro River sipping port while reflecting on the scenic vineyard-covered hillsides.

To receive a detailed itinerary for either journey, please email Beverly Carr, member of the Neighbourhood UU Congregation in Toronto, at beverlz@me.com.



Photo credit: Pedro Szekeley at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/pedrosz/>

Beacon Calendar: July & August 2016

Note: Calendar entries are truncated—view the complete entries on the Beacon web site calendar page.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30 12pm - Lunch Bunch	1	2
3	4	5	6	7 12pm - Lunch Bunch	8	9
10	11	12	13	14 12pm - Lunch Bunch	15	16 12pm - Welcome
17 11am - Poetry!	18	19	20	21 12pm - Lunch Bunch	22	23
24	25	26	27	28 12pm - Lunch Bunch 7pm - Book Club	29	30
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31	1	2	3 1pm - Worship	4 12pm - Lunch Bunch	5	6
7	8	9	10	11 12pm - Lunch Bunch	12	13 2pm - Pride Festival
14 11am - Worship in	15	16	17	18 12pm - Lunch Bunch	19	20 6:30pm - Leo's
21 10:30am - Music in	22	23	24	25 12pm - Lunch Bunch 1pm - Connecting 7pm - Book Club	26	27
28 12pm - Board	29	30 1pm - RE committee	31	1 12pm - Lunch Bunch	2	3