



**Beaconites join with Unitarians from three other Lower Mainland congregations to participate in the Walk for Reconciliation on Sunday, September 24th.**

## October Services

The theme for October is 'Generosity'. For reflection: Are we a people of generosity? Do we generously give of our knowledge, our time, our love and our possessions? What conditions support generosity? Can one give too much? The second Unitarian principle says we affirm 'equity in human relations'—what has this to do with generosity?

**OCT  
1**

### **Generous Listening, Courageous Dialogue**

*Tyler Vittie, Audrey Taylor*

*Service Leader: Janet Pivnick*

Through the decision to celebrate Canada 150+, Vancouver signalled an intention to make reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples a priority. The CUC has, similarly, made a commitment to embark on a path of reconciliation within congregations. What is reconciliation? Why is it receiving so much

attention? Where does it fit in our lives? Today, we will listen (via video) to the perspectives of Chief Robert Joseph, Ambassador for Reconciliation Canada, and hear from facilitators of Beacon's upcoming exploration of the CUC's *Truth, Healing and Reconciliation Reflection Guide*.

**OCT  
8**

### **Mentoring: a Generosity of Knowledge**

*Rev. Debra Thorne*

Without the generosity of those who

share their experience and knowledge, our lives would be an endless repetition of discovery—with little growth, depth or progress. Unitarians are lifelong learners but are we mentors to the next generation? Are we generous with our knowledge? Are we stingy when it comes to sharing our wisdom? The mentor relationship is marked by interdependence, humbleness and respect.

• A Soup Lunch follows the service.

*Continued on page 2*

## Minister's Message

October is Pledge Month. Every year at this time, Beacon leadership begins planning for the following year. The Board considers the direction and goals for the congregation. Committees make plans and draw up their budgets. Then the Pledge Drive team organizes for the Pledge Drive which takes place in the last three weeks of October.

This is an important time in the life of any community, the planning and preparing for the next phase or year ahead. It's always a risk to hope and an even greater risk to dream into the future, yet this is what you ask the Beacon leadership to do. Every moment that you are receiving inspiration, support and compassion from someone in the Beacon community, you are participating in the great flow of energy that sustains this com-

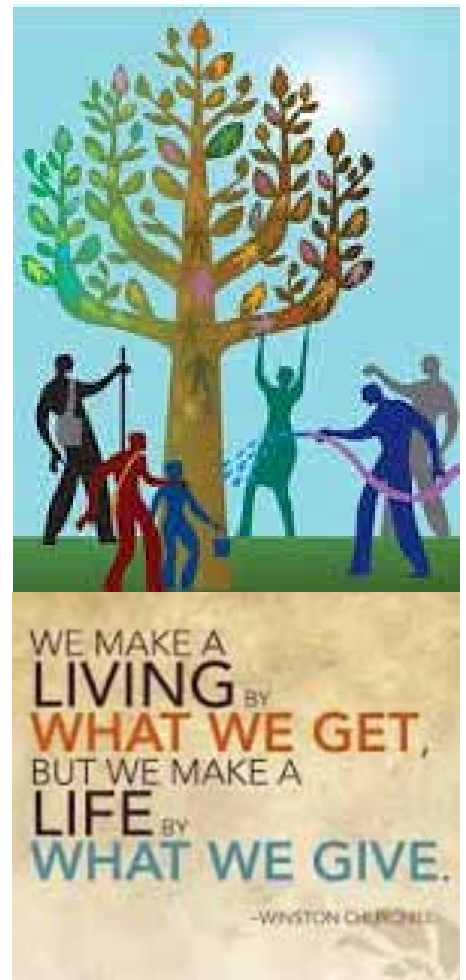
munity. Without your input of time, commitment and of financial support, Beacon would not and could not exist.

Promising. Serving. Pledging. These three actions sustain the Beacon community. We promise or covenant to live the principles every day because they have essential value to us. We serve because it feels good to give to something bigger than our singular selves. We pledge because we are moved to sustain that which nourishes our lives, our spirits and the wider community.

This month, you will be hearing from the Pledge Drive team through special emails and on the three Pledge Sundays. Please listen to their relevant information and invitation to pledge.

We do this together. Because we care. Because Beacon is worth it.

—Rev. Debra Thorne



## October Services and 2018 Pledge Drive Sundays

**OCT  
15**

### The Heart of Generosity

Rev. Debra Thorne

The heart of generosity means the source, the feeling, the aliveness, and the abundance of generosity. Where there is suspicion, anxiety and scarcity, generosity cannot exist. Only when our hearts are trusting, feeling safe and open can we access the source of our generosity. Today I share with you what it means to be part of a community that feeds your heart and spirit with abundant generosity, and how your generous heart nourishes the community.

- Beacon choir sings
- **Today is the first of three Pledge Sundays. If you enjoy our Sunday services, appreciate the warmth of community, are inspired by Beacon's commitment to justice, please consider a generous pledge for 2018.**

**OCT  
22**

### An Experience in Shared Ministry

Phil Campbell, Jean

Donaldson, Marylke Nieuwenhuis  
Phil Campbell: As UUs, we are keenly aware of the interdependent web of existence. The concept is enshrined in our core seven principles. When it comes to ministry, interdependence means that we all share the ministry of the church and minister to each other. I recently was on the receiving end of this collective ministry when I was critically ill and hospitalised for an extended period of time. In this service, I will share my experience with you, along with some thoughts about shared ministry.

Jean Donaldson will speak of her connection with Beacon. Marylke Nieuwenhuis will play the recorder.

- Beacon choir sings

**OCT  
29**

### Generous Spirit

Rev. Debra Thorne,

Tyler Vittie

Every religion upholds the practise of giving as a spiritual act. Jesus, Buddha and Mohammed all offered teachings on giving as a spiritual practice. What do we as North Americans understand about the spiritual depth of giving? There are many different world views on giving—some that we are familiar with and others that are unfamiliar and may challenge our thinking about our identity and the meaning of community.

Tyler Vittie will speak of his connection with Beacon.

- Beacon choir sings
- **Today is your last best opportunity to make your financial pledge to support Beacon's smooth sailing through 2018.**



## Board Bitz



On the Labour Day weekend, 19 Beaconites attended the “start-up” workshop, *Leaping Into the Dark, Like a Spark!*, with Joan Carolyn of the CUC. It was a good crowd, and we had a very positive experience.

First we were asked: “What are we doing well?”—that resulted in a list that was very impressive!

We were then asked: “How well does our light shine? Are there areas of concern? Is there anything which blocks or inhibits our light?” There

were a few thoughts on that—but nothing huge. One of our areas of concern was the fact that some very important parts of our Beacon Family were not a part of this conversation.

We then did an exercise in “blue-sky thinking”—basically some brainstorming on all sorts of ideas about what makes us come alive! And come alive we did!

*“Don’t ask what the world needs. Ask what makes you come alive, and go do it.”*

*Because what the world needs is people who have come alive.”*

(From Howard Thurman, influential African American author, philosopher, theologian, educator, and civil rights leader.)

As you can imagine, ideas flowed freely, from the ridiculous to the sublime! Some of our “blue-sky” ideas for coming alive are in the box on page 4.

Now our challenge is to continue this conversation with those who missed it on September 2nd.

*Continued on page 4*



**Beacon  
Unitarian  
Church**

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**Deadline for the November issue of  
The Beacon: October 15, 2017**

## Board Bitz (Continued)

The board will be working over the next while on ways to bring this conversation to the rest of the Beacon Community, those who were unable to attend this wonderful workshop. We are interested in hearing from everyone, especially from young adults and young families. What do you see as our strengths? Our weaknesses? What makes you come alive for Beacon?

— David Kristjanson and  
Donna Hamilton, Co-Presidents

### Blue Sky Ideas: A Small Sampling

- Better publicity
- Better space (especially for RE)
- Partner with other groups to buy or rent space
- Sponsor a public speaker, or event
- Open Circle Dinners to interested friends
- Grow veggies in a community garden, for the food bank
- Invite friends to services
- Share cooking for good nutrition
- Travel club – local to international outings
- More games nights, hiking trips, paddling, etc
- Theology Pub, or Café
- Some sort of co-housing
- Alternative time and type of service

## Beacon Volunteer Opportunities

### 1. Coffee Hour Hosts

“Coffee Hour” is a much beloved tradition at Beacon. The time spent chatting and catching up with friends after the service, and the chance to make new friends—as we welcome newcomers and make them feel at home—is a very important part of our Sunday morning. All of this happens because of people like you, who take turns making coffee and tea, putting out snacks and then making sure that everything is cleaned up and put away at the end. Some people like to set up and then go upstairs for the service, others like to clean up and still others like to do both. It is a great way to meet everyone and is a lot of fun. To become a part of this welcoming Sunday tradition please contact David at davidhardy@telus.net or Glenn at woottonng@gmail.com.

### 2. Nursery Support

During the Sunday service, there is child care available for children under age four in the nursery with volunteers who have been screened under our Safe Congregation Policy. At this time, we are looking to add a few more members to this dedicated team. If you are interested in volunteering with child care, please contact Peggy at prlunder@telus.net.

Connecting, Inspiring,  
Transforming!



*Ceremony  
of belonging*

*Invitation to join us.  
Nelson Unitarian Spiritual Centre  
Membership Ceremony*

*Sunday, October 22, 2017  
Nelson, BC*

## October is Pledge Month

**S**tewardship is being the grateful, responsible stewards of the gifts we receive from the Universe. It is the tradition of giving back with love to that which is worthy of our time and hearts. Classically known as tithing, or in our case, pledging, stewardship is giving back to sustain the community that nourishes your spirit and your soul.

**Why do we pledge?** This church belongs to each of us. We pledge to fund the daily operations and to ensure that the church and its resources are here for us and for others now and in the future.

**What is the money used for?** Your pledge supports our worship and music programs, our religious exploration program, programs for members and friends, community outreach, and our connection to the CUC. Our budget reflects our mission and vision.

**Should everyone pledge the same amount?** We place a high value on diversity in our congregation—diverse views, backgrounds, and experiences. Included in this diversity is a diversity of economic circumstances. All of us support our church at individual financial levels.

**How much should I pledge?** Plan to contribute a percentage of your annual income. See examples on the “Giving Chart”, which will be included in your pledge package, for a suggestion on what you might give.

**What about the money I put in the collection plate?** Some people use the Sunday offering to make their pledge payments. As long as the offering can be associated with you, e.g. your personal cheque, whatever you put in the offering will be counted toward your pledge.

**What if my financial circumstances change during the year, if I lose my job or have a financial emergency?** Lives are not static. Contact the Minister or the Treasurer: Carol Woodworth, if you need to adjust your pledge.



### Call for interest in Lay Chaplaincy

To be present at the most transformative moments of a person's life; to help people create ceremonies to appropriately mark significant changes in their histories; to give families a framework for grieving, or welcoming a transition, or blessing a new home—these are the opportunities of Lay Chaplaincy. The Canadian Unitarian Council has a fine program for vetting and training and helping members become and be lay chaplains. If this is something that calls to you or that you may consider, please have a conversation with Rev. Debra Thorne or Beacon's serving Lay Chaplain Marilyn Meden. We anticipate a start in the Spring of 2018.

## Religious Explorations



Ashley Cole

we are aiming to create a more multi-age classroom that is not as dedicated to age particular material as it is to ensuring children are participating in fun and engaging ways. To that end, we have two groups this year: the younger group which, for the most part, is made up of students in grades 1–5 and then the junior youth, who are mostly students in grades 7–9.

The younger group will be engaging with an 8-session multi-aged curriculum called *Miracles*: “This eight session program,

**I** can't believe it's October already! Our lovely volunteer teacher for the month will be Amber Strocel!

This year, in church school,

designed for a wide age span of children, provides a prolonged encounter with awe and wonder with frequent opportunities for scientific exploration. Through stories from our Unitarian Universalist sources and hands on activities, children engage in defining and discerning the miraculous and discover their own agency for miracle-making.” For a look at the sessions visit: <http://www.uua.org/re/tapestry/multigenerational/miracles>

The junior youth will be working through a tapestry of faith curriculum called *Riddle and Mystery*, a curriculum designed to assist in a search for understanding and asking big questions. For more information check out the *Tapestry of Faith* section of the UUA website found here: <http://www.uua.org/re/tapestry/children/riddle>

I look forward to seeing where all this new learning leads us!

—Ashley Cole,  
Director of Religious Explorations



## Lots of Connections!

### With the CUC:

The Canadian Unitarian Council (CUC) is the connecting tissue between all the Unitarian congregations across Canada. Directed by the CUC Board and a very small staff, the CUC manages to be aware of the needs of each congregation in the four regions. It is also the voice of Canadian Unitarians on the national and international scene.

It is strengthening to know that Unitarians are well represented when issues such as Dying with Dignity are raised at the Supreme Court; when GBLTQ refugees are in dire need of a safe country; and when a voice of principle and reason is needed when there is a racist bombing.

Many of us know that a portion of our financial support of Beacon is sent to the Canadian Unitarian Council. This portion is based on our membership numbers. As members make our congregation stronger, so does the CUC. The CUC provided the skills and presence of Joan Carolyn, the gifted and inspired leader of our recent, all-day Start-Up Workshop. Nineteen Beaconites attended, sharing ideas, humour, and lots of hard work (see Board Bitz). Joan Carolyn is the Congregational Development Lead for the Western and BC Regions.

Check out the CUC webpage at [CUC.ca](http://CUC.ca)—there you will find continual updates on what is happening across Canada. You will also find links to sign up for the CUC newsletter and regular updates about events in our region. This connection does not automatically happen when you become a member—you must sign-up for it. It's worth doing!

- <http://cuc.ca/cuc-enews/>
- <http://cuc.ca/the-canadian-unitarian/>

Our Beacon delegates to the CUC are Michael Scales and Susan White. They have the responsibility of keeping Beacon informed about the 'doings' of the CUC, including items such as the communications agenda, training and workshops being held, and more, during the year.

### With Each Other:

Connections are happening left, right and centre through our early welcome back workshop, committee regroupings, and the first church service with our traditional post-summer water ceremony, where we heard about many individual's summer events and adventures. A warm welcome to visitors and newcomers who have found their way through our doors. We hope you will continue to attend and find Beacon a place to belong and to be inspired. A little later in the fall, we will have a gathering for any newcomers who would like to learn more about Beacon and Unitarianism. Watch for information about the upcoming 'Getting to Know U' session.

### With a New Directory:

Your Connecting and Membership team has been busy getting the new directory organized. Phil Campbell, Joan Morris and Jean Donaldson have worked hard to reformat and update all the many changes and additions to the directory. Watch for the draft edition later this month when you will be asked to check for accuracy. You are in for a pleasant surprise with a new format that will be compatible with a new data base and much easier to keep up-to-date.

### With Circle Dinners:

The September Circle Dinner attracted about 25 folks at four dinners



Circle dinner at the Lunderville's included building a massive network of train tracks.

in members' homes. It was great to reconnect after the summer and share wonderful meals together. The next dinner will be November 18th so watch for more details and sign up at church in early November or contact Donna Hamilton at [donna-h@telus.net](mailto:donna-h@telus.net) or 604-944-3113.

### With Volunteers:

Greeters begin our connections with newcomers and fill an important role within Beacon. New greeters are needed especially at the beginning of a new church year. Contact Susan Tarras if you could consider joining the greeting team—[starras@telus.net](mailto:starras@telus.net). There is a workshop for new greeters after church on October 1st.

—Phil Campbell, Jean Donaldson,  
Joyce Gudaitis, Joan Morris,  
Susan Tarras



## Beacon Reconciliation Program Starting this Fall

In March 2014, when the Truth and Reconciliation Commission was travelling across Canada listening to Indigenous people speak of their experience with the Indian Residential School System, the Canadian Unitarian Council and Unitarian Universalist Ministers of Canada responded by submitting an Expression of Reconciliation. In this statement, the CUC and UUMOC acknowledged the ways in which the seven principles of the Unitarian faith were transgressed by the Canadian Indian Residential School System and made a commitment to “the journey of healing and reconciliation between Canadian Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal people”.

Since that time, Truth, Healing and Reconciliation Reflection Guides have been developed and congregations across Canada have been piloting the curriculum for children, youth and adults.

Beacon members have indicated, both in the congregational meeting in September 2016 and in the request for priority topics for the BC Regional Unitarian Gathering in 2017, that reconciliation work is a priority for our congregation. Earlier this year, the R.E. program participants (*Seekers* group) were part of a pilot project for the children's THR curriculum.

Beginning Wednesday October 4th, facilitators Rev. Debra Thorne, Tyler Vittie, Janet Pivnick and Audrey Taylor will lead participants through an eight session adult program of reflection, reading and discussion. Space will be limited to 14 participants who will be expected to commit to the whole 8 sessions, as well as to readings and reflections between the sessions. This program is specially created for Unitarians who desire to become reconcilable with Indigenous people. The dates are: Oct 4th, 14th, 25th, November 8th, 22nd, December 6th, January 10th and 24th at Cranberry Commons Co-Housing. A separate half day learning exercise that takes participants through a powerful experience to learn about Indigenous history in Canada will be held on the afternoon of October 14th at Sapperton Hall.

Please consider participating in this important work of Truth, Healing and Reconciliation at Beacon. For more information about this program, or for other reconciliation resources, check the CUC website: <http://cuc.ca/reconciliation/>.

—THRRG Team: Rev. Debra Thorne, Tyler Vittie, Audrey Taylor, Janet Pivnick

### The KAIROS Blanket Exercise

**October 14**  
**1:30–4:00 pm**  
**Sapperton Hall**  
**318 Keary Street**

The KAIROS Blanket Exercise is an interactive learning experience that teaches the Indigenous Rights history that we're rarely taught. Developed in response to the 1996 Report of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples—which recommended education on Canadian-Indigenous history as one of the key steps to reconciliation, the Blanket Exercise covers over 500 years of history in a one and a half hour participatory workshop.

Blanket Exercise participants take on the roles of Indigenous peoples in Canada. Standing on

blankets that represent the land, they walk through pre-contact, treaty-making, colonization and resistance. Participants are led by trained facilitators who take on the roles of narrator and European Settlers. Participants are drawn into the experience by reading scrolls and carrying cards that will ultimately determine their outcomes. By engaging on an emotional and intellectual level, the Blanket Exercise effectively educates and increases empathy. The exercise is followed by a debriefing session in which participants have the opportunity to discuss the experience as a group. This often takes the form of a talking circle.

The Beacon Board decided that offering this experience to Beaconites, their family and friends was so important that they wanted no



financial barriers to participation. Therefore there is no cost to this experience, but space is limited, so you must sign-up. Contact Rev. Debra Thorne to reserve your place. Or find the sign-up table downstairs after the service on September 28, October 1 and 8<sup>th</sup>.

This exercise is not geared for children under ten years of age. There will be no childcare available.

### Beacon Events

**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. Part personal sharing, part spiritual deepening, the groups meet monthly either at 1 pm on the 3rd Wednesday, or 7 pm on the 3rd Thursday of the month. Email minister@beaconunitarian.org for more information.

**The Humanist Discussion Group** meets the last Sunday of the month at *The Astoria Retirement Home* (2245 Kelly Avenue, Port Coquitlam) to discuss a wide range of current topics. **Sunday October 29th:** Marilyn Medén will introduce a discussion on *Stories We Are Told And Stories We Tell Ourselves*.

We know the stories. They begin with Santa Claus. And we buy them, make them our own. Believe that the fat man is going to get down our chimney or in our balcony door. Believe we need to take our children to play hockey, put ourselves in the façade of the powerful car, assuage our fear of death with extra vitamins and cures for things we do not have. What are your stories? How do you decide which to call your own?

More information: Marilyn Meden 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 choirdirector@beaconunitarian.org.

**Lunch Bunch** meets every Thursday at noon, year-round. Bring your own lunch and share in lively and topical conversation. Contact John Hagen 604-521-1335.

**Book Club** meetings are held on the 4th Thursday of each month at 7 pm. For meeting location details contact John Hagen, ajhagen@telus.net.

#### Upcoming Books:

**October:** *Fifteen Dogs* by Andre Alexis. This book won the Giller Prize, Canada Reads and the Writers Trust fiction prize.

**November:** *The Sympathizer* by Viet Thanh Nguyen. This won 6 awards including the Pulitzer Prize.

**December:** *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles

**Beacon Writers:** The first meeting of the Beacon Writers' Group will be on Sunday the 8th of October, at one, at Janet Pivnick's, after a soup lunch at Beacon.

We write about connection, a spiritual longing, a groping for meaning. Beacon's themes can be used for inspiration (September's theme is Belonging. October's theme is Generosity). We will be writing from prompts at the

meeting. You are also welcome to bring writing related to your spiritual path. The idea is to write what is on your mind, and not worry about style unless you wish your writing critiqued. Newcomers are welcome. Contact Marilyn Medén (m.j.meden@telus.net, 604-469-6797) or Janet Pivnick (janpivnick@gmail.com) for more details.

**Attend a Circle Dinner** and connect with other Beaconites in a relaxed setting. For more information contact Donna Hamilton (donna-h@telus.net) or Joan Morris (joanmorris@telus.net). The next dinner will be Saturday, November 18th.

**Attend a 'Getting to Know U' session** to meet other newcomers and deepen your knowledge of how Beacon functions and what Unitarianism is. Please contact Rev. Debra (minister@beaconunitarian.org) if you are interested in attending the next meeting.

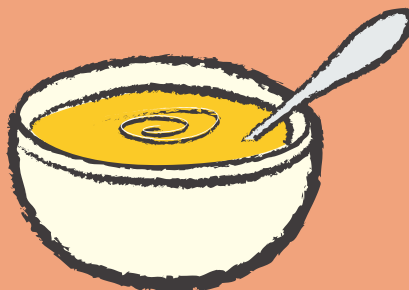
**Youth Group:** The Beacon Youth Group is reforming. If you would like information contact Ashley Cole downstairs most Sundays.

**Help out on Sunday mornings as a Coffee Host** (contact Glenn Wootton, woottongg@gmail.com), **or sign-up as a Sunday Morning Greeter** (contact Susan Tarras, starras@telus.net).

### Soup Lunch: October 8 and October 29

Soup lunches take place after the Sunday service in the downstairs hall. Please join us.

Peggy Lunderville (prlunder@gmail.com) and Bette Goode (bjgoode@hotmail.com) will appreciate your contributions of soup, buns, veggies, and sweets.



### Settlement 2 Meeting

#### Sunday, October 8 at 7 pm

The Settlement 2 task force is working to bring four further members of the Al Rbaai family to Canada. Please confirm meeting time with Peggy Lunderville if you are planning to come: 604-812-5939.



## Some Reflections on our Sponsorship

As of September 1st, the Beacon sponsorship of the Al Rbaai family is ended. We now move into the friendship phase with this family who are starting to feel more familiar with Canadian culture. We have seen tremendous change and growth in the family as they gained confidence with the English language. I think that I speak on behalf of the whole team when I say being part of this project has been a tremendously educational, rewarding experience.

On a personal level, I feel so privileged to have been part of this brave family's journey to a new life in Canada. I have seen the family in its efforts to shift their expectations to adjust to their new life in Canada, so different from what it was in Syria. I have seen Beaconites having to adjust their own expectations for what a Syrian refugee family "should" be like. This willingness to listen to each other with open hearts and understand without judgment, on both sides, has been a particularly moving experience for me. If everyone in the world could just listen and accept with love, the way the Al Rbaais and the Sponsorship Team have had to at our many family meetings, I know the world would be a kinder, more compassionate place in which to live.

We thank all of you for your support (which has taken many forms).

For our final newsletter update on the sponsorship, I invited other members of our team to share how their personal experience has changed them.

—Nancy Rupert

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"I have more pride in fellow Canadians because I experienced, first hand, so many gestures of welcome to the Al Rbaais: warm smiles from people on the street, generosity from people working in stores, and spontane-

ous translation help from complete strangers.

I was moved by the continuous generosity of fellow Beaconites and others who volunteered their time and energy to plan, research, problem solve, translate, drive, shop, etc.

I learned:

- how difficult simple tasks can be if you don't speak the language of the country and how little by little, (shwayya, shwayya), things get easier as you learn the language.
- how much patience is needed to get through Canadian bureaucracy, no matter what language you speak!
- and how much laughter can be shared without a shared language.

I also learned: some Arabic words, my way around New West (and the 6th and 6th Mall!), Google Translate, and the delicious taste of Taghreed's Syrian cuisine."

—Carol Woodworth

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"I don't really have a story, but working with the Al Rbaai family has given me a better understanding of the many challenges of the refugee experience. Also, I learned a bit about Syrian culture. This is new knowledge and understanding for me."

—Bette Goode

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"I wanted to help settle our refugee family but I didn't want to do too much. I had to balance my unwillingness with my feeling of community at Beacon. So I volunteered to be a driver, to take them to appointments and shopping and such. I got to know all of them eventually and it was my pleasure to be able to help in this small way. I often thought about their plight: about where they came from in Syria, about their fleeing their homeland to arrive here in Canada where they didn't know anyone or the



language and customs. It has given me a great appreciation for the welcome and the home that I found when I immigrated to Canada in 1968."

—Sue Sparlin

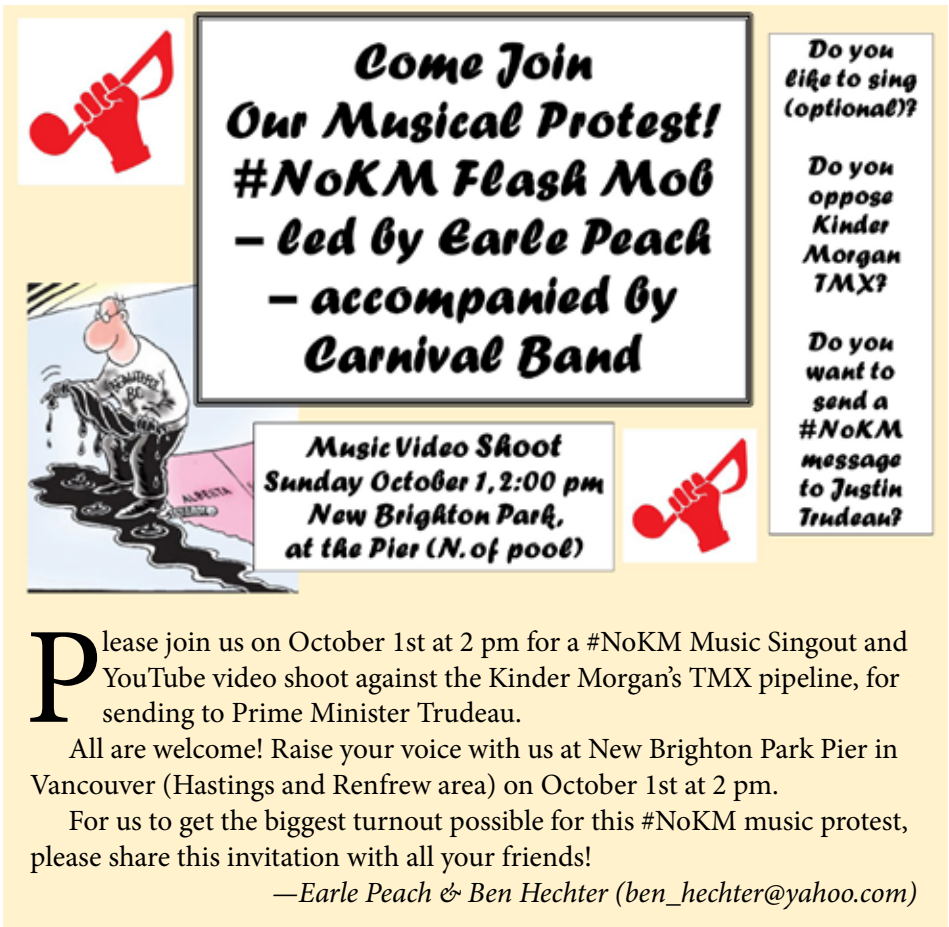
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"From the time Nader virtually genuflected before me as the family arrived at the airport, to their automatic concern and offer of help when they realized that I was going to have cataract surgery, I have felt privileged to be a part, in my own way, of this family. "Sway, sway," (slowly, slowly), says Nader, and I learn that rushing the family to English lessons is not going to work. Everything in its own time. "I love my family," writes Raneem at the end of many of her journal stories, and I learn of the support of a family in difficult times. Taghreed motions first a finished sign across her body, then ties an imaginary cord, and I laugh with her as I learn that Syrian women can "have their tubes tied". Mohammad jokes with me when he jumps out from behind a door, and I learn to adapt. This is one family. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees stated in 2015 that the number of people displaced from their homes was over 65 million. The Al Rbaai family times over 16 million. I now have a small idea of what that might mean."

—Marilyn Meden

## News from the Canadian Unitarian Council

- Two CUC Vision Contests: Sermon-writing and art contests on our national vision, “*As Canadian Unitarian Universalists, we envision a world where our interdependence calls us to love and justice,*” are opportunities to express your thoughts and creativity on any aspect of the vision. Closing date February 1, 2018. More info: <http://cuc.ca/posts-page/vision-contests-2017/>.
- Tips for intentionally Inclusive Congregations can be found at <http://cuc.ca/congregational-life/tips-for-intentionally-inclusive-congregations/>. There are suggestions for how to approach that person you haven’t met, conversation-generating questions for young adults, helpful signage, and more. Here is one example: *Wear Your Name Tag. When we wear name tags we are inviting conversation with those who can’t remember our names (and who may be too embarrassed to ask). Wearing a name tag says we want to know those who are not already part of our circle.*
- Western Region Fall Gathering: Calgary, Alta Oct 13–15
- 2018 National Conference & Meeting: “An Invitation to Love & Justice” is the theme, & will take place May 18–21, 2018 at McMaster University in Hamilton ON, hosted by the First Unitarian Church of Hamilton. Interested in submitting your idea for a workshop focus? Deadline for applications is Oct 31, 2017.
- **Highly Recommended!** Join the CUC Mailing list to find the above information and more! <http://cuc.us2.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=14cdbcb20d193a5636bf18bdd&id=9434666947>



**Come Join Our Musical Protest!**  
**#NoKM Flash Mob**  
**– led by Earle Peach**  
**– accompanied by Carnival Band**

**Music Video Shoot**  
**Sunday October 1, 2:00 pm**  
**New Brighton Park,**  
**at the Pier (N. of pool)**

Do you like to sing (optional)?  
Do you oppose Kinder Morgan TMX?  
Do you want to send a #NoKM message to Justin Trudeau?

Please join us on October 1st at 2 pm for a #NoKM Music Singout and YouTube video shoot against the Kinder Morgan’s TMX pipeline, for sending to Prime Minister Trudeau.

All are welcome! Raise your voice with us at New Brighton Park Pier in Vancouver (Hastings and Renfrew area) on October 1st at 2 pm.

For us to get the biggest turnout possible for this #NoKM music protest, please share this invitation with all your friends!

—Earle Peach & Ben Hechter ([ben\\_hechter@yahoo.com](mailto:ben_hechter@yahoo.com))

## Two UU Mindful Journeys

### To India with Rev. Wayne Walder and Joan Walder

Join us in 2018 on a Mindful Journey to India! India has become a favourite destination for Mindful Journey and we have brought it back by popular demand. This is an opportunity to travel with other U.U.’s and to enjoy the wonder and colours of India. Daily meditations and evening reflections help us to experience our travel more fully.

Please contact me if you would like an itinerary of the trip and information about Mindful Journey. I will gladly send you our e-booklet of Mindful Journey from 2006 to 2016 with comments and stories from our travellers. This trip will be led by Neighbourhood U.U. Toronto minister Wayne Walder

—Joan Walder, [saranac2@gmail.com](mailto:saranac2@gmail.com)

### To England with Beverly Carr

*The Gilded Age Meets Downton Abbey.* Cora, of *Downton Abbey* fame, is the inspiration for this journey. We’ll stay for 5 nights in my favourite English city, Oxford—the unique university town of amazing bookstores, unusual architecture, historic pubs, and eclectic free museums. We see where JRR Tolkien met with the *Inklings*, Lewis Carroll dreamed up *Alice in Wonderland*, CS Lewis had a magical wardrobe, Inspector Morse solved many crimes, and Bill Clinton didn’t inhale. Two nights in the Midlands and one in London complete our itinerary.

—Beverly Carr, [beverlz@me.com](mailto:beverlz@me.com)