



Beacon Unitarian Church
Connect • Inspire • Transform

#414 – 552A Clarke Road
Coquitlam, BC V3J 0A3

October 9, 2018

Dear Beacon Friend,

Thank you for being such an important part of our Beacon community. A community where we share our joys and sorrows, celebrate our milestones, and support each other in times of need. Because of your generosity Beacon continues to be a vibrant, healthy and strong congregation.

This past year, in addition to bringing us moving and engaging Sunday Services, Reverend Debra Thorne has inspired us to further our commitment to Truth, Healing, and Reconciliation by taking part in the Walk for Reconciliation, hosting the TRC Blanket Exercise, and participating in the 8 session Truth Healing and Reconciliation Reflection Guide, facilitated by Janet Pivnick, Audrey Taylor and Tyler Vittie.

In February, Debra brought us 'Better than Chocolate', exploring sexuality and sexual health for adults through an all day OWL for Adults workshop with Margaret Smith and Rev Samaya Oakley, and on Earth Day she launched the 'Living with Less Plastic Initiative', challenging us to examine how we live with plastic and asking ourselves if we can live with less.

This fall Rev Debra will be teaching an 8 week 'Build Your Own Theology' course and consulting with Beacon's senior members to create a new program called 'Aging with Grace' that will be touching on both the practical considerations of aging and the opportunities to deepen spiritually.

As you can see, Reverend Debra has been our guiding light, our beacon, through out this year. Her spiritual and practical leadership has meant a growth in our numbers and a strengthening of our common bonds.

Our theme for this year's pledge drive is 'We Carry the Flame', which means that WE are responsible for the financial strength and stability of our wonderful Beacon Congregation.

We were very fortunate to receive a few private donations during the year to keep Debra with us at ¾ time, and although we are very grateful for these donations, we cannot expect that these gifts will be on going.

With that in mind, our goal for 2019 is to employ Reverend Debra at ¾ time completely through our own pledges, in order to grow our congregation and to continue being a community that Connects, Inspires, and Transforms.

To reach this goal, we are asking you to not only give generously during this year's pledge drive, as you always do, but to consider raising your pledge if you are able.

Our Beacon Congregation is about so much more than money, but without money, we cease to exist. Your financial pledge means that you are caring for something you value and contributing to its growth as well as creating and maintaining a healthy, vibrant community that changes lives.

With great appreciation,

Your Pledge Drive Team

Rev Debra Thorne, Nancy Rupert, Merilyn Meden, Carol Woodworth, Beth Connelly, David Kristjanson.

PS

Our pledge drive Sundays are October 14, 21s and 28 this year. We urge you to make your pledge during this time to give us time to complete the 2019 budget before our December 2nd Budget Meeting.