

Keeping current during the pandemic

To be most responsive to the changing plans and needs during the COVID-19 pandemic, we will be updating our website as new information about our services and programs becomes available. Visit beaconunitarian.org, or contact our Board co-presidents: president@beaconunitarian.org. We will also be sending information using our weekly email update, *Beacon This Week*; our Beacon Unitarian Church Facebook Group, and the weekly Religious Explorations email newsletter, currently entitled the *Weekly Quarantine Care Kit*.



David Kristjanson



Donna Hamilton



APRIL'S SERVICE THEME: **EVOLUTION/CHANGE**

Below are the tentative topics for our April Zoom meetings. Please check the website closer to the date in case any changes have been necessary.

APR 12 **Born to Leap: Whole Church Spirit Jam**
Ashley Cole, Rev. Meg Roberts and all of you!

What can we learn from the life cycle of salmon about how to be the best we can be? We will be using the Spirit Jam model of multiple exploratory break out stations: at this all ages service, we'll explore what makes each of us unique, how do we overcome challenges and what do we love.

APR 26 **Evolving With these Changing Times**
Rev. Meg Roberts

During times of great upheaval in society and in our personal lives, what helped humans in the very evolution of our species? What kinds of creativity is emerging right now in the world, in the face of the COVID-19 virus as well as with climate emergency? How can we ground ourselves and each other to those things we hold as sacred, as core to what is most important in life? We'll hear stories and share stories.

APR 5 **We Are All Are Connected**
Service Leader: Marilyn Meden

You've heard of the six degrees of separation? It might not always be six, but as we have recently seen, we are all connected! The story for all ages will set the tone for readings and music performed by our Beacon members. Connect with people you know well, and those you would like to know better, through the words and music they have chosen.

APR 19 **Living with Less Plastic – Two Years In**
Teresa Morton, Marilyn Medén

You will be surprised at the changes we have made during the last two years! Come & celebrate the congregation's 'Less Plastic' successes. Win a prize at Enviro-Bingo! Hear about accomplishments from around the world including those of Greta Thunberg. Reflect on where we want our 'Living with Less Plastic' to go in the next two years, and let us know your thoughts.

Until further notice, Sunday services can only be accessed via the internet or by phone using Zoom. Please join us at 10:30 am!

<https://zoom.us/j/525609578>

If you are phoning in, dial 778-907-2071 (in BC) then enter the meeting ID: 525 609 578

Need some help setting up? Contact Sebastian, page 10.



Musings by Meg

As I write this, the situation in our lives and in our world is evolving rapidly and will likely continue to do that. Change may not be easy, especially when it includes such uncertainty. When it impacts our whole society and world, it is particularly intense. Depending on what else is happening in our lives, we may feel fear, confusion, a desire for it all to go away. We may be overwhelmed. Some of us may feel alright, confident that we'll get through this, especially within a caring community, like Beacon. And we may move back and forth between these various feelings, and others, as the situation changes.

What has helped you during times of change and uncertainty? What would help you now?

What helps me is to keep grounded in what is most important to me:

- Offering compassionate care to others as well as myself in body, mind, heart and spirit.
- Living and loving within relationships: family, friends, communities of which I am a part, including my beloved Unitarian Universalist web

of communities and the jewel that is Beacon.

- Learning about our earth and my fellow humans so I can be part of creating a healthier, fairer and more peaceful world.

I am inspired by reading stories of resilience and creative response to crisis.

During these changing times, I want to act on these things that are most important to me. To do that, I must find manageable ways to be compassionate to myself and others, stay connected and caring, and learn what needs to be learned now to do those things. It includes finding the beauty around me, the glimmers of joy and hope. It includes rest and renewal (including play and humour). It means seeing what is happening now, within the larger history of human experience.

I am inspired by reading stories of resilience and creative response to cri-

sis. What are your stories of resilience? How have you responded in creative ways in times of uncertainty and change? What stories of resilience inspire you? Where do you find beauty, joy, and hope? I would love to hear your stories or read them, so email me minister@beaconunitarian.org or phone me 778-870-9015.



Rev. Meg Roberts

I believe we will find creative ways together to stay connected during this time. This will be true especially when we share our ideas and our stories, and when we are willing to be part of the solution. Then we will be creating our own story of resilience and caring within our Beacon community. We are in this together, and together we will find the ways to respond to these evolving times.

In the spirit,

—Rev. Meg Roberts

Pastoral Support Team

Beacon's Pastoral Support Team encourages members and friends to reach out and let us know if you, or someone you know, has a specific need. For example: wanting emotional or physical support of some kind; illness at home or in hospital; in self-isolation and need help getting groceries or doing errands. We can do our best to be of use and will be asking other Beaconites to assist in ways that meet recommendations around social contact from BC's Provincial Health Officer.

Likewise, our team is looking for help in case getting groceries, doing errands, or other kinds of assistance as requested. You can let us know how available you are (e.g., whether once a week or even once or twice a month)—your offer would be greatly valued. Thank you for helping Beacon be the caring community it wants to be.



Rev. Meg Roberts



Laura Redmond



Judy Villett

Pastoral Support Team:

Rev. Meg Roberts, Laura Redmond and Judy Villett
pastoralcare@beaconunitarian.org
Meg's cell phone: 778-870-9015

Board Bitz

Welcome to Springtime. Warmer weather, blue skies, and social distancing. What a way to start the new season. We hope that you are all staying in touch with each other through email and phone calls during this difficult time and remembering to check in on those among us who are most vulnerable.

In an attempt to ‘flatten the curve’ of the COVID-19 virus, Beacon Sunday Services at Sapperton Hall as well as all Beacon ‘in person’ gatherings have been cancelled and Sapperton Hall has been taken over by the **Royal Columbian Hospital** as an extension of their **Emergency Department**. We will be actively monitoring the situation and relying on guidance from health authorities to decide when we will be able to meet again in person. The **Sapperton Old Age Pensioners Association** will keep us informed of when the hall will be available again, but until then we have moved all of our events and activities online.

In order to keep in touch and continue to **Connect, Inspire and Transform**, Beacon has opened up its own Zoom account and is experimenting with **Online Sunday Services**. Let us know what you think of them. Zoom is an online meeting platform that we can use to hold meetings for up to 100 people—pretty amazing! In addition to online Sunday services we will be using this platform for church programs like **Soul Matters** and are working on creating some exciting online gatherings. **If you have any fun ideas, let us know about them.** A silver lining to this Covid-19 scare is that it is inspiring us to work on improving our online presence.

The **Canadian Unitarian Council** has been using Zoom for quite a while

and it is actually how **Sue Sparlin** and **Susan White**, our Beacon delegates, will be voting at the up coming AGM. The CUC National Conference in Halifax was cancelled due to COVID-19, but the AGM will be going ahead completely online. Thank you to Sue and Susan for representing Beacon at this very important event.

A silver lining to this COVID-19 scare is that it is inspiring us to work on improving our online presence.

Unfortunately, another Beacon event that had to be cancelled this year was **Sasamat Camp**. All efforts were made to keep it going, but again, because of the need to ‘flatten the curve’ the decision was made to postpone it until next year.

April 26th brings us **Beacon’s Annual General Meeting**. We will be voting for a new Board of Trustees and choosing a new recipient for *Sharing the Plate*. All are welcome to attend and ask questions, but only members will be allowed to vote. Hopefully you will all be proficient at using **Zoom** by then.

Please keep checking the **Beacon Website** www.beaconunitarian.org, to find out what is happening at Beacon during these fast moving times and watch for updates in **Beacon This Week**.

We would like to close with these very wise words from Religious Exploration Director extraordinaire, **Ashley Cole**: “In this period of uncertain times, when we might feel like things are out of our control, we need only remember that **WE** hold the power to slow the spread of this virus by taking the call from health officials to self-isolate seriously. Our **Seventh Principle** calls us to respect the interdependent web of all exis-



David Kristjanson



Donna Hamilton

tence of which we are a part. Consider **Social Distancing as Social Action** we can participate in out of respect for the greater good. Your lack of contact with the public and with those most vulnerable in our community results in less risk to those members and less demand on our healthcare system. Staying home can save lives. Understandably not everyone has the option to do this but we as Beacon Unitarians can absolutely do our part by cancelling all in person gatherings both large and small. Social isolation does not mean emotional isolation as we explore together new ways of connecting. Online platforms like Zoom and Facebook allow us to connect in new and interesting ways.”

— David Kristjanson and
Donna Hamilton, Co-Presidents



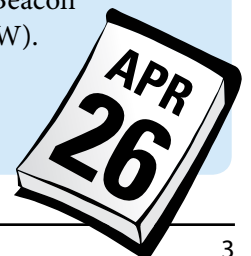
**Beacon
Unitarian
Church**

Annual General Meeting (Online)

Sunday, April 26

Please join us for this important event. Stay tuned for more details in the weekly Beacon email: Beacon This Week (BTW).

**Save
the Date!**



Let's Connect with Lotsa Helping Hands!

Last month, when Ev Morris had a fall, the pastoral care team suggested that Joan try using a web based platform called *Lotsa Helping Hands* to help organize care for Ev. Initially, the goal was to use the platform as a way for Joan to specify needs, and participant members to volunteer, as their time and resources allowed. The main need was for visits with Ev, but the pandemic situation soon made that impossible.

However, the platform still has a use—it allows us to post well wishes and greetings, and let Joan and Ev know that they are in our thoughts. **It is so important to our friends that we show up, even though we don't feel that we can be useful, or don't have anything brilliant to say!** I encourage you to click on the link and sign up to be a member, and using the "Well Wishes" tab, let Joan and Ev know that they are in your thoughts. —Laura Redmond

<https://my.lotsahelpinghands.com/community/evs-road-to-recovery>

A note from Joan:

Dear Beacon Community, As you may know Ev had a fall at home at the end of February and broke his hip. Unable to have surgery due to the severity of the break he is unable to put any weight on it for 8–10 weeks. Ev is now in the PATH (Patient Assessment and Transition to Home) unit at Langley Memorial Hospital. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic NO visitors are allowed—sadly, not even me!

In these very trying times, it is so hard for me and friends and family to support Ev. He is finding it a very lonely and challenging time even though he is in good hands and exactly where he needs to be.

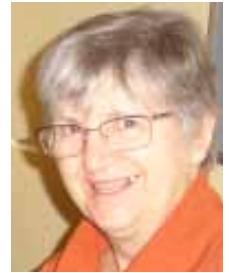
So we have started a website for updates and "well wishes" from friends and family called *Lotsa Helping Hands—Ev's Road to Recovery*. Please consider joining and adding your messages of good cheer and warm wishes.

Looking forward to "seeing you" on the website.

Best wishes, Joan and Ev

Settlement 2 Update

In March Mohammed and Raneem, who came to Canada with their parents in 2016, were invited to their citizenship



Peggy Lunderville

interview but it was cancelled due to the coronavirus outbreak. It is hoped that they will soon be able to become Canadian citizens.

Heba, Ihab, and Alaa are on the waiting list for evening English classes and will likely start in the summer.

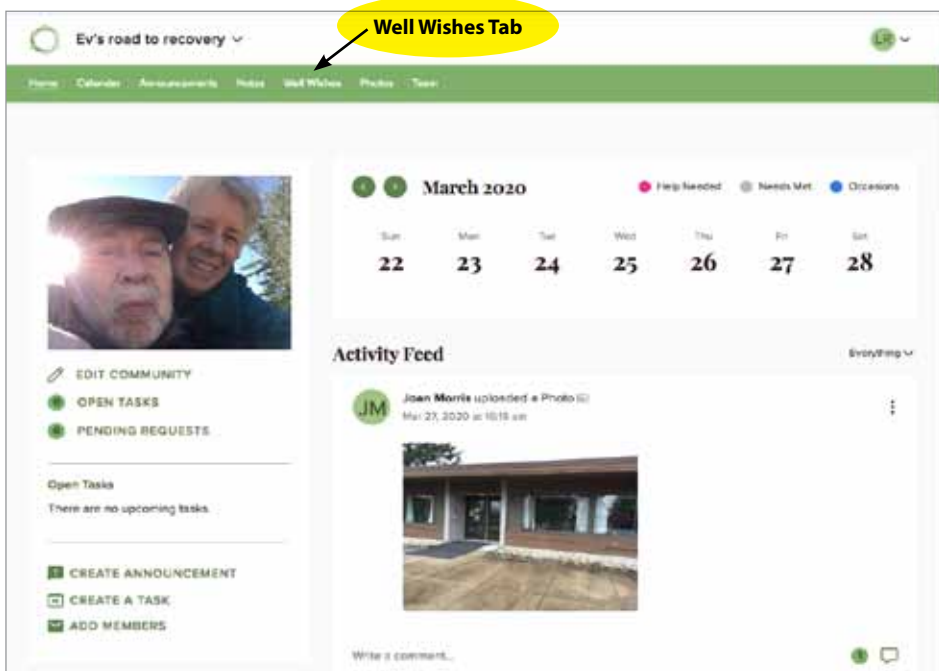
Ihab's wedding will hopefully take place in June or July.

Ramadan, the month of fasting, is from April 24 until the celebration of Id al-Fitr on May 25. There are preparations for Ramadan starting April 8.

The baby, Wissam, born January 7, 2020, is healthy and growing as new babies do. His parents are Alaa and Heba.

Our responsibility as a sponsoring church extends to July 4, 2020, after which I am sure we will want to help as best we can, as friends. Many thanks to everyone at Beacon, and our friends, who have all helped so much to make it possible for these wonderful people to come to Canada and to be helped in adjusting to a life they never expected.

—Peggy Lunderville



Religious Exploration (RE) for April

As you are all well aware, we find ourselves in an ever evolving pandemic and our response as Beacon goes will evolve as well, and as needed. I am sure things will have changed from the time I have written this to the time it is printed. Never the less, many resources have been shared already and I find hope in the community care response to this pandemic. At the time of writing, gatherings of 50 or more are prohibited. This will no doubt affect the structure and content of Beacon services and programs moving forward. I choose to see this as an opportunity to explore new ways of being in community and new technologies we can use to enhance our communication.

If we are to go ahead with our current programming this is what

we have scheduled: The children will continue with their *Passport to Spirituality* program and will travel to India to learn about Hinduism, Saudi Arabi to learn about Islam, China to learn about Taoism, and then finally

The irony of a travel program in a time of a world pandemic is not lost on me. Exploring how we are all interconnected will no doubt be a part of the learning.

travelling back home to review what they have learned. The irony of a travel program in a time of a world pandemic is not lost on me. Exploring how we are all interconnected will no doubt be a part of the learning.

If we end up cancelling our scheduled programming, then just like others have emphasized already, stay up-to-date by subscribing to both the Beacon this Week as well as the RE weekly email newsletters, check the website, and check Beacon's facebook page. I am sure there will be more regular updates to come.

Thank you everyone, please be gentle with yourselves and with others.
—Ashley Cole (she/her pronouns),
Director of Religious Exploration,
dre@beaconunitarian.org



Ashley Cole

Living with Less Plastic

Amidst all the COVID-19 precautions and perturbations, there is a feeling of deep vulnerability. Our modern lifestyle is making it harder to prevent the spread of the virus and is putting some of our community members at risk. It is difficult to separate my concerns about infectious disease from my worry about the environment as a whole. That being said, I'm grateful beyond words for our public health system and those who make it function.

And at the very local level, New Westminster's Recycling Depot is closing March 29th. The City has decided to participate in the Metro Vancouver regional transfer facility being built on United Boulevard in Coquitlam. New West residents are angry about losing the local recycling depot and

fear that the City will see more illegal dumping as a result. The Regional Transfer Facility serves Tri-Cities and New West and will be open in the fall. In the meantime, New West will hold



several 'pop-up' recycling events to try and capture the items not covered by curbside collection. For residents who don't drive, getting to the United Boulevard site in Coquitlam remains

a problem. For many New West citizens, the closure of the Recycling Depot is a serious step backwards!

Watch for our Earth Day service on April 19th when we will take a look at *Single Use Plastic—Two Years In* and have some fun with 'Enviro-Bingo'. We'll share some quotes from Greta Thunberg to inspire us and then articulate our aspirations for the next two years of Living with Less Plastic.

—Teresa Morton
Living with Less Plastic New West
Teresa.a.morton@gmail.com



Teresa Morton

Sharing the Plate Candidate Organizations for 2020–21

Under Beacon's "Sharing the Plate" [STP] program, one-half of the open collection taken each Sunday service is donated to a local charity. The STP policy requires that the Beacon membership annually select the following year's STP recipient through a vote at the Annual General Meeting in April.

Guidelines for the Sharing the Plate Charity

- The charity should have their principal activities in the Lower Mainland, preferably in the New Westminster/Tri-Cities area;
- be a relatively small charitable organization, one which will be positively impacted by the amount of the *Sharing the Plate* contribution;
- not have a formal affiliation with a religious organization or political party; and
- be willing and able to come to Beacon in September 2020 to tell us about their work, and come again in May or June 2021 to receive the cheque if they are selected as our new STP recipient.

The STP committee offers the following three charities for selection of the STP recipient for the 2020–21 church year. The charities are listed in alphabetical order. Please familiarize yourself with the information included below, so that you can make an informed decision at the AGM.

Intergenerational Garden under the organization of the Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows Katie Seniors Network

<https://www.seniors-network.ca/intergenerational-garden/>

In 2012 the Seniors Network built an intergenerational garden in Maple Ridge on a donated city lot (40'x60').

The intergenerational garden is located at 22527 121 Ave. in Maple Ridge. It is a neighbourhood based initiative that brings together children, teens, seniors and the wider community in shared learning.

Senior volunteers weed, water and harvest produce with five beds going to the Food Bank.

Two public schools—Eric Langton Elementary and St. Patrick's Elementary—bring their young students here to plant seedlings and learn about crops (vegetables, herbs, flowers and berries), soil, growth (via light and water), and harvesting. Teachers supervise these classes during the week.

Traditional sources of funding (TD Friends of the Environment and Kiwanis) have dried up and new sources are needed.

New View Society

<http://www.newviewsociety.org>

New View Society provides programs and community to those living with mental illness (emotional, physical, and spiritual difficulty). New View helps to *connect* people with each other through their programs, inspire people to make changes through these programs, and transform people through these programs. Participants will often say that New View is a family to them, and has changed their lives.

Vision: Community Health through Mental Health

Purpose: Creating an environment for growth and recovery for people challenged by mental illness through:

- Supporting an individual's choice to live, work, learn and be part of their community.
- Promoting recovery in a friendly, safe and supportive environment for individuals affected by mental illness in the Tri-Cities.
- Being a flexible and caring Society dedicated to mental wellness.
- Providing housing, employment, social and personal growth opportunities.

New West Hospice Society

<https://newwesthospice.ca>

The New West Hospice Society, founded in 2016, is dedicated to building a grassroots hospice initiative from the community level up, based on the Compassionate City Model.

The purpose of the New West Hospice Society is to acknowledge and affirm that dying, death and grief are part of life across the life span. They ask us to follow them on this journey as we build a community where death is no longer hidden or whispered about, where people know what to say and do, and where residents can die with dignity and friends can grieve as well.

Our monetary donation to this organization, as well as any volunteer support that we can provide to treat people who are dying, and their families who are in grief, with both dignity and compassion will demonstrate our first two Unitarian principles: "The inherent worth and dignity of every person;" and "Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations."

Nominations for 2020–21 Beacon Board of Trustees

The nominating committee—Nancy Rupert, Carol Woodworth, Rob Warner and Donna Hamilton—is pleased to present you with the nominees for the 2020/21 Board. David Kristjanson, Heather Brown, and Karen Greenland are continuing on the board but don't need to be nominated this time. Nancy Rupert has agreed to serve Rob's 3rd year of the nominating committee, so that he can move to the board. Charlotte Moon has accepted the position of youth representative.



Susan Tarras
Vice President, first year of a 2-year term

I have been attending Beacon for about 14 years and have been a member for over 12 years. Shortly after arriving, I joined the Religious Exploration Committee and was part of a small group that tried to get a youth group going—I was one of two or three parents who had children of that age. I began singing with the Beacon choir, which was a leap into the unknown, not having sung in a choir since school. Choir has been something I have very much enjoyed ever since. We work hard and have good fun at Monday evening practices! Over the years I have been part of the pledge drive team, a member of both the Music Committee and the Connecting and Membership Committee, and Beacon's financial reviewer. I enjoy the community and camaraderie of Beacon and I want to help Beacon flourish and grow.



Regina Ogmundson
Trustee, first year of a 2-year term

I grew up with five brothers and four sisters. My family religion was Catholic, and I continued with that religion until college. Through education and travel I explored different ways to live according to my own values. My Dad's death in 1986

propelled me towards a search for answers to some of life's big questions. I visited different faith communities and by 1989 I was a regular member at the Vancouver Unitarian congregation. Years later, while living in Surrey, I became a member of the South Fraser Unitarian Congregation.

For the last several years I have made my home in New Westminster. I am unable to work full time, and keep busy with long walks, volunteer tutoring, yoga class, scrabble club and a community choir.

Throughout my Unitarian experience I have been involved in several congregational communities and one congregational board.

I look forward to working on the Beacon Board within this welcoming community.

Rob Warner
Trustee, first year of a 2-year term



Rob Warner is descended from a long line of Universalists who immigrated to Canada in 1805. One of his great-great grandfathers helped build the first Universalist Church in Canada in Huntingville, Quebec in 1843.

Rob has led an exciting life, traveling the Atlantic, Arctic, Caribbean, and Mediterranean oceans during his service in the Canadian Armed Forces, picking up extra languages along the way. Then he studied at the University of Ottawa before embarking on a career as a professional skydiver.

Rob came to Beacon via the Unitarian-Universalist Church of Riverside, California about twenty years ago. Rob has previously served on the board and is often seen stowing flags after Sunday services. He devotes his Sunday afternoons to hiking on Burnaby Mountain. He has been to Sasamat Camp more times than he can count and often attends Theology Pub and Humanist discussions.



Amalia Mamani
Trustee, first year of a 2-year term

I am a Canadian citizen born in Peru. My religious background has given me an appreciation for the Unitarian Values of openness, tolerance, the pursuit of truth, respect for individual rights, and diversity of spiritual expression.

I believe I could bring to the board the benefits of my experience as a mother, educator and as an immigrant.



Peggy Lunderville
Nominating Committee, first year of a 3-year term

This would be my third time on the nominating committee, and I have also been involved with the board as trustee and as chair, during Rev. Morris's ministry. Prior to that, I was

Continued on page 10

Beacon Programs

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

The Humanist Discussion Group (Online) meets the last Sunday of the month at 7:30 pm.

April 26th: Marilyn Medén will lead a discussion on *A Good Death: What is it?* Would there be a time when the best choice would be medical assistance? What is the law governing this? Given a couple of weeks to prepare, what preparation would you make? For further information about the Humanist Group, and for Zoom meeting details, please contact Marilyn Medén m.j.meden@telus.net (604 469 6797) for more details.

Theology Pub (Online)

April 19th (3rd Sundays): We shall discuss our 4th UU source: *Jewish and Christian teachings, which call us to respond to God's love by loving our neighbours as ourselves.* Invite others who may be interested; look up our Principles and Sources; carry them in your wallet! This month we are meeting online using Zoom. Contact Franci Louann for details: franci@louann@gmail.com, or 604-837-7613.

NEW: Online knitting & crafting circle. This idea came in via Janet Pivnik. This isn't a class, it is suggested as an online weekly point of contact with a random group who like to knit or do crafts. We can share our projects, knit together, and chat. Email Laura Redmond (lauraredmond2@telus.net) if this is of interest to you. We will then sort out the best time to meet online.

Book Club meetings are held on the 4th Thursday of each month at 7 pm and are now online. For Zoom details contact John Hagen, ajhagen@telus.net. **Thurs. April 23:** *The Narrow Road to the Deep North* by Richard Flanagan. Facilitator: John Hagen. See box on page 10 for more information.

Lunch Bunch meets every Thursday at noon, year-round. Bring your own lunch and share in lively and topical conversation. Contact Anne MacLeod at 604-524-2434. *Note: Meetings have been cancelled until further notice, but may be taking place via Zoom.*

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 Joan Morris (joan.morris@telus.net) if you are interested in attending the next meeting.

Settlement 2 Task Force is responsible for the settlement of four refugees who arrived as permanent residents of Canada in July 2019. Those wishing to help as volunteers and/or donate to the settlement fund, please contact Peggy Lunderville, prlunder@gmail.com.

Join the Beacon Choir for musical fun and skill development. Contact choirdirector@beaconunitarian.org for more info. *Note: Choir practices have been suspended until further notice.*

NEW: Beacon Phone Buddies Program

Do you miss the chance to chat with other Beaconites during coffee hour? Here's a suggestion for a low-tech way we can connect and get to know each other better, even those we've never talked to before.

Details are still be finalized, but here is the proposed program:

1. Send an email to Joyce Gudaitis (joyceg@asrsoft.com) with your name, phone number and email.
2. She'll send out a paired up list of all the participants.
3. Contact your phone partner (by email if possible) with suggestions for the best time to chat, and decide who will initiate the call.
4. At the agreed upon time, pour yourself a cup of coffee, or your favourite beverage, and get to know each other better. (Note: we'll include some conversation starters and discussion topics in the partnering up email.)
5. After two weeks and two calls (or more if you want), about 20 minutes each, the list will get scrambled, sent out again and you'll have a new telephone buddy.

This will work even for those who don't have internet access. Just call Joyce at 778-988-9644 and she will set you up with a phone partner.

Soul Matters Sharing Circles (Online)



We meet once a month to deepen our exploration of Beacon's monthly theme, using the

theme packet sent out via email at the beginning of the month. The packet includes a couple of options for a spiritual exercise as well as some questions—you choose one exercise to try out that month and

one question to ponder.

Led by Rev. Meg Roberts, the next session is on Wed., April 1st on *Courage* (March's theme). We have two online groups: 1–3 pm or 6:30–8:30 pm. Zoom meeting details will be shared via email.

If you could like to come and try it out, please contact Rev. Meg Roberts (minister@beaconunitarian.org, 778-870-9015). All are welcome.

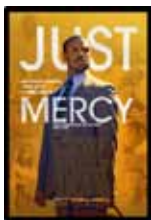
NEW: Online Beacon Film Club

The intention for this group is to replace a fun night out at the theatre while we're all cooped up at home.

Similar to the book club, the procedure is to view the film in advance, and then come to a Zoom meeting to chat about it.

The films selected are all available from YouTube for a rental fee (free up to \$6.99). They may also be available for streaming from other internet sources, so if you have a subscription to a streaming service, do check there first. To rent a film from YouTube, just search for the title in YouTube and look for the video that has a blue "Buy or Rent" box next to it.

We will meet to talk about the film at 7 pm on Friday evenings via Zoom. Please email Nancy Rupert (nancy.rupert@gmail.com) for Zoom meeting details.



Fri. April 3: **Just Mercy (PG-13)**

A powerful and thought-provoking true story, "Just Mercy" follows young lawyer Bryan Stevenson (Jordan) and

his history-making battle for justice. After graduating from Harvard, Bryan had his pick of lucrative jobs. Instead, he heads to Alabama to defend those wrongly condemned or who were not afforded proper representation, with the support of local advocate Eva Ansley (Larson). One of his first, and most incendiary, cases is that of Walter McMillian (Foxy), who, in 1987, was sentenced to die for the notorious murder of an 18-year-old girl, despite a preponderance of evidence proving his innocence and the fact that the only testimony against him came from a criminal with a motive to lie.



Fri. April 10: **Emma (PG)**

Anya Taylor-Joy plays the titular heroine in this star-studded adaptation of Jane Austen's classic novel, directed by

Autumn de Wilde and featuring Johnny Flynn, Bill Nighy and Miranda Hart.



Fri. April 17: **Labyrinth of Lies (R)**

In "Labyrinth of Lies" the economic miracle is changing the life of Germans in post-war Germany 20 years later.

Most of them are sick of the war and prefer to push their guilt to the back of their mind. When a journalist (André Szymanski) identifies a teacher in the playground as a former guard from Auschwitz, no one wants to take notice. But a young prosecutor (Alexander Fehling) takes on the case and can't even be stopped by his boss. During his research he realizes that some Germans claim that they never heard the expression "Auschwitz," while others try to forget about it. As the resolute prosecutor doesn't give up, the Attorney General Fritz Bauer (Gert Voss) retains him to take charge of the investigations. Struggling with an overload of information, the young attorney blunders into a labyrinth of guilt and lies where he almost gets lost.



Fri. April 24: **Dark Waters (PG-13)**

Inspired by a shocking true story, a tenacious attorney (Mark Ruffalo) uncovers a dark secret that connects a growing number of unexplained deaths to one of the world's largest corporations. In the process, he risks everything – his future, his family, and his own life – to expose the truth. Anne Hathaway, Tim Robbins and Bill Pullman also star in this gripping thriller.



Fri. May 1: **Frank vs. God (Unrated)**

When we meet David Frank he is a mess. A wounded lion. His spirit shattered by the death of his wife, this formerly successful corporate attorney spends days in his bathrobe with his only real companion, his beloved bulldog, Brutus. But while away on a trip to visit his beloved niece Lucy, just outside of Orlando, a Tornado threatens to destroy his house. David races home in a heroic effort to save poor Brutus, but is stopped by the police and watches helplessly as the dark funnel of destruction sucks up the house, and the dog, like some Wizard of Oz nightmare – the punishing finger of God. Then, adding insult to injury, the Insurance Company tells him they won't pay because the damage falls under the 'Act of God' clause in his policy. David is livid. But then he gets the bright idea to sue God Himself for damages, naming representatives of all different faiths as co-defendants. Fueled by a megalomaniacal and opportunistic judge, a beautiful but damaged defense attorney, and David Frank's own sharply-honed legal gymnastics, what starts out as a crazy, radical stunt ultimately becomes a very deep and soulful journey.



Do you need some computer help?

Beacon youth, **Sebastian Rasmussen** is volunteering to help members out as best as he can over the phone. Call 778-789-4554 or email seb_contact@use.startmail.com to set up an appointment. (Sebastian's mom is Amalia Mamani, soon to be a trustee of Beacon's board.)

Cyber Security: Basic and specific advice provided.

Using Zoom: Get some coaching on how to set up your computer for Zoom meetings.

Virtual Gatherings c/o the CUC

Connect and Deepen— Virtual Gathering

2nd Sunday of the month:

April 12, 1–2:30 pm PT

Join us for the opportunity to discuss matters of spiritual and theological significance in small groups and connect with people across the country.

Gathered Here: Virtual young adult community

The monthly online gathering for young adults (ages 18–35) Mon.

April 13, 5–6:30 pm. Together, we

will find connection and create the opportunity to share what's on our hearts in a spiritually grounded and loving community.

Nominations *(Continued from pg 7)*

involved with the religious education committee and did teach some classes many years ago. Recently I served in the nursery. I was part of the Sasamat camp organizing group for many years. I am also an active member of the choir. It has been my pleasure to offer the summer music service in August for many years now.



Charlotte Moon

Youth Representative

I have been coming to Beacon for fourteen years

now. It's pretty exciting to be part of such a cool church. For almost my whole life, Beacon has supported me and pushed me to explore myself and the rest of the world, to think big, and to become a better, kinder person. Now I'm ready to give back. I'm interested in being the board's **part-time youthful perspective** to ensure that this church *stays cool*.

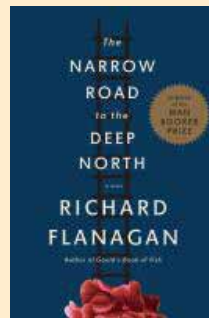
Book Club meetings are held online on the 4th Thursday of each month at 7 pm. For Zoom meeting details contact John Hagen, ajhagen@telus.net.

Thurs. April 23, 7 pm (Online)

Facilitator: John Hagen

The Narrow Road to the Deep North by Richard Flanagan (NWPL Book Club Set)

Haunted by the death of his wife while attending brutally sick and injured soldiers at a World War II Japanese POW camp, surgeon Dorrigo Evans receives a letter that irrevocably shapes the subsequent decades of his life in Australia. More info at: <http://beaconunitarian.org/index.php/book-club/>.



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Deadline for article submissions is the 15th of the month, for inclusion in the following month's newsletter.

