



Summertime!

Beacon Unitarian Church is on its summer break, but our community stays connected with five informal summer gatherings before regular Sunday services resume on September 13. Our online Lunch Bunch will also continue every Tuesday from 12:00–2:00 pm throughout the summer (see page 6 for details). Whether you're a long-time member or discovering Beacon for the first time, you're warmly invited to join us. Simply fill out the [Beacon Connecting Form](#) to learn more about our summer gatherings. We'd love to meet you!

**JUL
5**

10:30 AM (weather permitting*)

Beacon Celebrates World Sacred Circle

Dance Day—All Welcome!

10:30 am: WAVES coffee shop in New West at 6th Ave and 6th St. (ask for the private room)

11 am (approx.): Moody Park in New West (likely south end, under the trees) Laura Redmond and Mary Bennett invite you to join them in celebrating World Sacred Circle Dance Day — an annual international event now in its 11th year, traditionally held on the first Sunday in July.

First, we'll gather in the private room at Waves Coffee House (6th Ave and 6th St., New Westminster) at 10:30 am. Together we'll watch short videos of the three dances being danced in communities around the world.

Laura and Mary will share a little about what they love about Sacred Circle Dance and will be happy to respond to questions. We'll then head to nearby Moody Park to try the dances together. No experience is

necessary, and you are very welcome to simply watch and enjoy the atmosphere. Feel free to bring a camp chair or blanket if you wish. We expect to leave the coffee shop around 10:55 am. You are also welcome to bring a picnic lunch to enjoy afterward.

Sacred Circle Dance began at the Findhorn Foundation in Scotland and draws on traditional folk dances as well as contemporary choreography. Each year, communities around the world dance a shared selection of three dances. To learn more about the dances for this international event, visit: [Global Circle Dance Day](#)

**In case of rain, the event will be cancelled. A decision will be made the evening before. Check the Beacon web site for last minute information.*

**JUL
19**

5:00 PM

Join us for a Joyful Summer Service

Coordinator: Marilyn Medén, with Cathy Tingskov and musicians Kate Smith and Bill Marshall

*Location: John Hagen's backyard**

At a recent service, Cathy Tingskov shared something of her experience growing up in the Mormon faith and her decision to leave it. In this relaxed summer gathering, we'll explore that journey a little more deeply, asking: What do we carry with us when we leave a faith tradition? What do we let go of? And what wisdom continues to shape us?

There will be opportunities for small-group conversation, uplifting music by Kate Smith and Bill Marshall, and John Hagen will open the gathering with a trumpet fanfare.

After the service, please stay for relaxed conversation and refreshments. If you're able, bring a plate of finger-food appetizers or desserts to share. Coffee, herbal tea, and water will be provided. If it's convenient, please bring a lawn chair. For more details, please contact Marilyn Medén (see the online Breeze directory for contact information).

**Inside if it's raining!*

Please join us for New West Pride 2026

Saturday, August 15, 3–8 pm • Downtown New Westminster on Columbia Street

Beacon Unitarian is once again participating in the New West Pride Festival. We are looking for 8–10 volunteers to hang out at the Beacon booth and tell people about our “Welcoming Congregation”. There will be at least two people at our booth at all times. Shifts are one to two hours long, sometime between 2:30 and 8:30 pm—there is lots of flexibility and it’s always lots of fun. Please email David Kristjanson for more information.



AUG 16 10:30 AM
Summer Service in the Park

Coordinators: David Kristjanson and Glenn Wootton, Music by Kate Smith & Bill Marshall
Location: Sapperton Park, across the street from the Royal Columbian Hospital. Look for the Beacon banner.
Come join us for song and celebration under the trees in Sapperton Park. Bring your own lawn chair and perhaps snacks or a picnic lunch for afterwards. Please invite a friend or neighbour. There is a playground and spray park for anyone who would like to bring kids and/or grandkids.



AUG 30 10:30 AM
Summer Singing Service
Service Coordinator:

Peggy Lunderville (call or text 604-812-5939)
Location: Peggy's home in Burnaby
All ages and all levels of musical ability are welcome to join us for a morning of singing/playing at Peggy Lunderville's home. This gathering is a wonderful opportunity to connect as a community in the summer as we sing our favourite hymns, as well as some newer ones. Bring hymn books if you have them and bring musical instruments if you wish to accompany. If you have a hymn you would like to be included, please contact Peggy Lunderville ahead of time. There will also be room for some requests at the service itself. Potluck lunch to follow (tea, coffee, juice and water will be provided). Our home is wheelchair accessible.

Next regular Beacon Sunday service: September 13, 10:30 am, Sapperton Hall and on Zoom

SEP 13 10:30 AM
Pouring Our Energies Together: The Annual Water Ceremony

Beacon's program year starts again with this special service. The annual water ceremony service is for all ages: we pour water from various sources into one common bowl, symbolizing the re-gathering of this community after a summer break. If you would like to bring water from your summer experiences to put into the bowl, please do (whether from a favourite place or from your tap at home)!

Board Bitz

Summer is upon us, with longer days and warmer weather—a wonderful time to get outside and enjoy all that the season has to offer. Our regular Sunday services concluded with our Father’s Day service and annual church picnic. The weather was perfect, and Cathy T. organized three fun games that had us engaged, laughing, and moving together. We’ll gather five more times over the summer before regular Sunday worship resumes at Sapperton Hall on September 13.

The past few weeks have been full of meaningful celebrations and transitions. On May 10, Janet Pivnick led a wonderful service during which Laura Redmond was installed as a Beacon lay chaplain. Reverend Katie Stein Sather presented Beacon with a beautiful stole, created by Donna Hamilton, and gifted it to Laura for use in her lay chaplaincy. Many thanks to Reverend Katie for her generous and thoughtful gift, and to Laura for her service as one of our lay chaplains.

This spring has also been a joyful season of growth for our congregation. We welcomed Glen and Kathy W. into Beacon membership



on March 15, and on June 21 we were delighted to welcome four more new members: Gord K., Cathy T., Marie L. and Dina D. New members help keep Beacon vibrant and growing, and we look forward to deepening these relationships in the months ahead.

We also expressed our heartfelt thanks to Rachael G., Beacon’s administrative support, who is leaving Beacon this summer. After six years with

Beacon, Rachael has decided to pursue a new career path and return to school for additional training. We have come to rely on her in countless ways, and while she will be greatly missed, we are excited for this new chapter in her life. Best wishes, Rachael!

During the same service we celebrated the generosity of our community. Vasyl Kyniv, representing Lookout Housing and Health, our 2025–26 *Sharing the Plate* recipient, accepted Beacon’s donation of nearly \$5,000. *Sharing the Plate* is one of the ways Beacon reaches beyond our walls to support the wider community. Thank you to everyone whose generosity makes this program such a success.

On a sadder note, on June 20 Laura Redmond officiated at the Celebration of Life for Hank Einarson, a long-time Beacon member whose presence will be fondly remembered.

Exciting transitions continue at Beacon, including our new partnership with the *Tidal Pool Ministry Co-operative*.

On June 28, Rev. Debra Faulk and Reilly Yeo, two members of the *Tidal Pool* team, facilitated an engaging workshop at Sapperton Hall. The session gave Beacon members





an opportunity to share what is most important to us as a congregation and will help guide *Tidal Pool's* ministry with Beacon this fall.

The Board is excited to be working with *Tidal Pool*, a co-operative of eight Unitarian ministers serving small and mid-sized congregations. From September through December, *Tidal Pool* ministers will provide ministerial support to Beacon while also working with our Worship Committee, Homily Club, Pastoral Support Team, and Board. We look forward to this new partnership and the opportunities it will bring.

When the seasons turn again in September, we'll gather once more for our Water Ceremony. Until then, we hope you'll keep in touch with one another, enjoy Beacon's summer gatherings, and have a wonderful, relaxing, and restorative summer.

—Susan Tarras, President

Congratulations to Michael Scales!

Beacon extends its heartfelt congratulations to Michael Scales, who was recently awarded an Honorary Life Membership by the New Westminster Hospice Society in recognition of his many years of dedicated volunteer service, leadership, and compassion. Michael has helped guide the Society through his work on its Board of Directors and has been a thoughtful advocate for hospice care and for building a more compassionate community. We celebrate this well-deserved honour and thank Michael for the generosity, wisdom, and caring spirit he brings not only to hospice work, but also to our own Beacon community.



Sharing the Plate Program

Our *Sharing the Plate* recipient for the 2025–26 church year, Lookout Housing and Health Society, was pleased to accept our contribution of nearly \$5,000!

Beacon is now collecting funds for the Spirit of the Children Youth Hub, and will do so until April 2027.

Please keep an eye open for potential *Sharing the Plate* recipients for next year—we choose new recipients in April.



Vasyl Kyniv, representing *Lookout Housing and Health*, our 2025–26 *Sharing the Plate* recipient, was present to accept our donation of nearly \$5,000.

Remembering Hank Einarson



Hank Einarson
March 15, 1951–April 21, 2026

On June 20, family, friends, and members of the Beacon community gathered to celebrate the life of Hank Einarson, who died on April 21 at the age of 75.

Hank was one of those people who quietly helped build community. He lived his Unitarian values through his own kindness, curiosity, and action.

Whether he was volunteering in the congregation, advocating for social justice, supporting political causes he believed in, or simply lending a hand to someone in need, Hank had a gift for seeing where help was needed and stepping forward.

Many Beacon members will remember Hank's enthusiasm for connecting people and ideas. After attending a Unitarian leadership school in Seabeck, he joined with Joy Silver and Risa Royer to create a worship service entitled *Unitarian Evangelists Take the Good News on the Road*. Together they presented it in the four Lower Mainland congregations, encouraging Unitarian Universalists to share the values of liberal religion with confidence and joy. Hank also played an important role behind the scenes in organizing regional Unitarian events, often encouraging others to take on leadership and discover gifts they did not yet see in themselves.

Beyond church life, Hank cared

deeply about justice. He participated in the Clayoquot Sound protests to protect old-growth forests, supported parents advocating for better educational resources in East Vancouver schools, and was an active supporter of Jack Layton and the New Democratic Party. Yet those who knew him best remember not only his convictions, but also his warmth, humour, love of books, delight in languages, and deep devotion to his family.

The celebration of Hank's life reflected these many dimensions. Stories, music, shared memories, and congregational singing reminded us that a person's legacy is measured not only by accomplishments, but by the lives they touch.

As one theme emerged again and again throughout the service, it was this: if Hank saw a need, he stepped forward.

May we honour his memory by doing the same.

Loved *Framed By Our Houses*?

If you've read Bill Marshall's *Framed By Our Houses*, here's a simple way to support him: write a short online review!

Reviews help books reach new readers and keep them visible on bookselling websites. You don't need to be a literary critic—a few sentences about what you enjoyed, what surprised you, or what you'll remember most are all it takes.

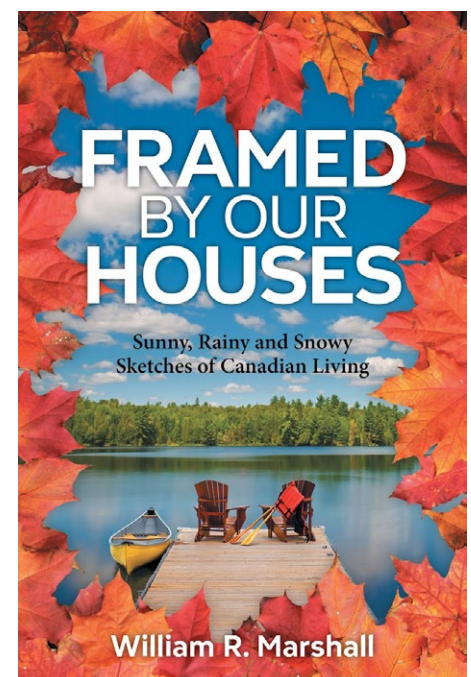
Whether you post on Amazon, Goodreads, Indigo, or another book site, your review can make a genuine difference. Thank you for helping spread the word!

Need a place to begin?

- What did you enjoy most about the book?
- Was there a character or scene that stayed with you?
- Who would you recommend it to, and why?

A two-minute review is a wonderful way to encourage both Bill and future readers.

[You can order a copy of Bill's book at www.framedbyourhouses.ca.](http://www.framedbyourhouses.ca)



Beacon Programs

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

The Humanist Discussion Group (online) likes to think about and discuss our common humanity, and our place as individuals and collectives in this dance of life. As a group we welcome different points of view and discuss a wide range of ideas. We typically meet the last Sunday of the month at 7:30 pm, via Zoom, but we are now on a summer break. Please check the weekly e-newsletter for updates and the Zoom link. If you would like to receive regular emails from the Humanist Group, please contact Marilyn Medén at humanist@beaconunitarian.org.

Book Club (online) typically meets on fourth Fridays at 7 pm via Zoom, however we are now pausing for our summer break. During the church year, books chosen will be announced in our weekly e-newsletter, *Beacon This Week*. Please read the book beforehand and then meet online to discuss. Newcomers and drop-ins are always welcome! For enquiries, please contact John Hagen bookclub@beaconunitarian.org.

Lunch Bunch (online) meets every Tuesday from noon until 2 pm, year-round, currently via Zoom. Bring your lunch and share in lively and topical conversation. Contact Laura Ramsay at 604-816-5331 for the Zoom link or check the *Beacon This Week* email. Newcomers are welcome!

Film Club (online and in person) typically meets 1st and 3rd Fridays at 7 pm via Zoom but we have pressed “Pause” for a summertime break. For more information email Marilyn Medén: filmclub@beaconunitarian.org.

Beacon Men’s Group
In our diverse community, we recognize that many men seek spaces to:

- Reflect on their personal journeys and spiritual growth.
- Navigate life’s challenges in dialogue with others who understand.
- Explore topics such as relationships, identity, vulnerability, and purpose in an atmosphere of mutual respect and acceptance.
- Build meaningful friendships and a sense of community.

We meet every second week at 7:00 pm at various locations. If you’re interested in joining or learning more about us, please email mensgroup@beaconunitarian.org.

Women’s Groups offer friendship and conversation in several small groups that meet both in person and online at different times throughout the month. New participants are always welcome. To learn more or find a group that suits your schedule, please contact either Beth C., Cathy B., Elizabeth C., or Teresa M. (see the Breeze directory for contact information).

A Summer Gathering for Beacon Women!

July 25, 11 am–2 pm

Join other Beacon women at a potluck lunch on July 25th, to be held in north Burnaby. Get to know other women and catch up with old friends. Learn about the Beacon Women’s Groups.

Invitations will go out July 9th and the RSVP is due by July 17.

Questions? Send your query to Teresa M. or to Joan M.

Beacon Music Jams

To celebrate an enjoyable year of making music together, Music Jam participants joined Kate and Bill in leading the congregation in Coco Love Alcorn’s *Sing for the Joy* during our June 21 service.

Music Jams will resume in September, meeting on the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. We will continue to alternate between New Westminster and Coquitlam. New musicians and listeners are always welcome!

EnviroBee

EnviroBee concluded its season on June 14 by sharing encouraging environmental news from Fix the News and from participants themselves. We look forward to gathering again on September 13!



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Deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month preceding Sep. 1, Nov. 1, Jan. 1, Mar. 1, May 1, and July 1.