



The Beacon

Beacon Unitarian Church

Volume 32, Number 4, April 2014

Sunday Worship Services and Religious Education Classes are held at the **Sapperton Pensioners' Hall, 318 Keary Street, New Westminster.** Services start at 10:30 a.m.

April's theme is sustainability. This theme was chosen twice this year because of its importance and the breadth of the topics that are entailed. Whether it is the sustainability of our food chain, or the sustainability of our commitment to empower ourselves and our families to make choices in our lives toward clean water and air, this is a topic that requires our attention. - Rev. Debra Thorne

Sunday April 6, 10:30 a.m.

Seeds of Growth

Rev. Debra Thorne

The seeds that grow our food represent the very essence of our existence. Without strong seeds there will be no food. Using the example of The Unitarian Service Committee program, Seeds for Survival, which promotes long term food security for marginal farmers in countries such as Ethiopia, we will address the challenges of sustainable food. Metaphorically, we also need strong seeds to sow liberal religion across Canada. This is CUC Sunday and a special collection will be taken for the strengthening of liberal religion in Canada through initiatives such as the Sharing Our Faith program. There will be a post-service Congregational Conversation on the Draft Vision Statement 2014.

- 🎵 **Choir sings today.**
- 🎵 **Food Bank collection today**



Sunday April 13, 10:30 a.m.

A Species with Foresight

Jim Stephenson

One of the characteristics which separates *Homo sapiens* from other species is an awareness of the future and an ability to plan actions now which affect the future. Wonderful as this is, there are a number of instances where this ability has failed to prevent a crisis which should have been avoided. This service will explore the past and present use of this ability in the context of the sustainability crisis.

Coordinator: Donna Hamilton

Sunday April 20, 10:30 a.m.

THE LORAX – an intergenerational interactive dramatic presentation!

Rev. Debra Thorne

With your help, and with the children and youth, we will tell the haunting story of the Lorax. In this story by Dr. Seuss the greedy Once-ler chops down all the Truffula Trees to make Thneeds. When the trees are gone the Swomee-Swans, the Brown Bar-baloos and the Humming fish are forced to move away from their homes. Not all is lost! If everyone pitches in we can turn the world around and invite the Lorax back.

- 🎵 **Choir sings today.**

**Deadline for the May Beacon
April 15, 2014
Please send to:
Newsletter@BeaconUnitarian.org**

Sunday April 27, 10:30 a.m.

A Practice of Gratitude

Rev. Samaya Oakley

Over a year ago when grumbling about the snow and cold in Calgary, I was given the sage advice to bloom where I was planted. From that day forward I began a practice of finding and sharing something that I was grateful for on a daily basis. This service explores the insights that I have gained from a year of living with gratitude, the science of gratitude, and what other religions have to say about gratitude.

Coordinator: Donna Hamilton



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Special Announcement from the Board and the Minister



From the Board:

The Board of Trustees is pleased to announce that Beacon has received an extraordinary financial gift that has allowed us to extend Rev. Debra Thorne's time commitment to us through the end of December 2014. We are also very pleased to announce that Rev. Debra has accepted that offer. Beginning April 1, 2014, Rev. Debra Thorne will be increasing her time from ½ time to ¾ time as our Consulting Minister. At the Board meeting on March 12, the Board identified the ways in which we want Rev. Debra to allocate her additional time with Beacon for the four months of April through July, the remaining period of her current contract: preaching and worship, community building and growth, support for Beacon's major committees, and helping Beacon to successfully complete the Mission/Vision process. This is a unique opportunity for us as a congregation, a chance to use Rev. Debra's expertise and guidance to help us to grow, to improve our ways of doing church, to begin to fulfill our new vision and mission. Let us work together, supporting the new Board and Rev. Debra, and riding the booster rockets this additional time will give to us in order to create a powerful, loving and effective future.

Sue Sparlin
President, on behalf of the Board of Trustees



From the Minister:

I am honoured, humbled and excited by this unprecedented and generous endorsement for the work I have been doing with all of you. I think it is fair to say that everyone at Beacon wants to see the community grow. We have seen a small but steady increase in Sunday morning attendance, which is heartening. Growth is more than numbers though. These past 20 months Beacon's leadership and I have been working hard to strengthen the infrastructure of the community. We have looked at Beacon's growth from these two points:

1) Deepening and healing the relationships within the congregation, and 2) Renewing committee procedures and lines of communication.

What are the next steps for Growth?

Everyone agrees that Beacon's long term viability requires growth in new membership. We need to open our doors, make a joyful noise and invite people in. We also need to walk out those doors, and show the wider community who we are and what we are doing.

From the mission/vision process we will generate energy and clarity about our purpose and lay the plans to make it happen. My hope is that we will become clear how we are going to live our values in the world, and from that how we are going to serve the world.

Once this is clear then we need to look at communications. How do we let people know who we are and what we are doing? The variety of communication systems is huge and challenging. We will need to revamp the webpage. We will need to consider whether we use FaceBook, Blogging, or Twitter (and I'm sure there will soon be new communication platforms). We will need to either teach ourselves or gather those who are experienced in using these new tools.

I think that one of the next steps ought to include mingling in the neighbourhoods. I have been thinking for a while about setting up a once a month theological conversation in a public space such as a restaurant or a pub. These are simply ideas, and the world is full of ideas. The new Board and I will have further clarifying conversations about growth and my ministry at Beacon.

I do think that Beacon and I have similar temperaments: we like to work hard and hold a level of quality that we do not want to slide below. That being said, we all need to be careful that our ambitions and our expectations do not go beyond the needs each one of us has to maintain healthy bodies, psyches and relationships, so that we remain strong, open-hearted and joyous in the work we do.

Thank-you to everyone!

Debra





President's Ponderings

Dear Beacon

Thank you all so much for the privilege of serving as your President for the past five years. It has been an awesome spiritual growth opportunity for me to have been able to preside over the changes we have witnessed together. Chairing the upcoming AGM on April 27 will be my last act as your President.

During my term in this office I have had the honour of working with many fine Board Members. I learned much from Carol Becken and Hugh Morrison and Donna Hamilton and Don Hauka. Their dedication, knowledge of church history, commitment to Beacon and due diligence in the governance work of the Board have been an inspiration to me from the outset.

In the middle of my term I received letters of resignation from two staff and one minister all in the same month. Had it not been for the solid ministerial support, fellowship support, and denominational support I may not have recovered my balance so well or so quickly. I continue to be deeply touched by the work of so many of you to keep our little church going. The Worship Services Committee has been brilliant in providing inspiring guest speakers, particularly during our year of being lay-led in 2010-11.

This past year in particular has been stunning. We produced an awesome Beacon birthday month and a fabulous Ordination of our beloved minister, Rev. Debra Thorne. It

was my privilege to lead the search for her and to get to know how much expertise was available to us through the Canadian Unitarian Council in the person of Rev. Antonia Won.

It was also a year of loss: we grieved the sudden and unexpected passing of Bareld Nieuwenhuis and the natural end of life for Ralph Greer - two men who gave strength and leadership, guidance and commitment to the well-being of Beacon. Each time we were held and welcomed by the Vancouver Unitarian Church as we celebrated and mourned together. We are not alone.

Ours is a church that values ministry. And this is a church where the members demonstrate their personal ministry on a daily basis. I hope to continue to serve well both you and the wider faith and the wider community.

The next Board will be different – and yet the same. It will be different in that they will look at new ways of collaborative leadership. It will be the same in that the individuals will be people just like you: Beaconites with a strong commitment to our church and a strong dedication to their own truth. These are exciting times. I am so looking forward to the upcoming year.

Sincerely

Sue Sparlin

President, Beacon Unitarian Church

(Board Bitz can be found on page 8)

News from the Beacon website

Check the right hand column of the beacon website. You'll find all kinds of nifty things:

- Next Sunday's sermon topic
- Audio Files of past sermons <http://www.beaconunitarian.org/inspiration.html>.
- Info about the Climate Change seminars happening on Saturday afternoons in New Westminster
- Camp Sasamat Registration forms
- Copies of the Beacon newsletter

Beacon Unitarian Church

#414, 552A Clarke Road Coquitlam, B.C. V3J 0A3
info@BeaconUnitarian.org

Consulting Minister 2013-2014:

Rev. Debra Thorne minister@BeaconUnitarian.org

Lay Chaplain: Marilyn Medén

604-469-6797, m.j.meden@telus.net

Choir Director: Charlene Dubrule

604-464-3992, char4myc@shaw.ca

President: Sue Sparlin

Secretary: Nancy Rupert

Treasurer: Audrey Taylor

Trustees: Jane Shoemaker, Rob Warner, Terry McComas

Connections & Membership Jean Donaldson 604-461-0056,
donaldsj@telus.net

Care & Concerns: Renée Spakowsky 604-463-8086

Beacon Editor: Donna Hamilton newsletter@BeaconUnitarian.org

Beacon Distribution: Tom & Uta Poiker

BeaconUnitarian.org

Beacon's Religious Education Corner

by Amber Strocel

For the 2013/2014 church year, Beacon's Religious Education program has been presenting a theatre-based curriculum. The children have participated in a number of plays, which we have presented during Sunday services. Most recently, we performed the two-part "Los Mariachis Mexicanos", which is based on the folk tale The Bremontown Musicians.

As part of the theatre curriculum we have worked on concepts like vocal pacing, projecting your voice, making sure you're facing the audience, portraying emotions and moving around the stage. While the children are understandably all at different levels and abilities, we have seen a visible improvement over the six months of the church year to date.

Our next play will be *The Lorax*, which will be performed at the Earth Day intergenerational service. We are currently looking at ways to create audience involvement, as we did with the Christmas pageant. Be prepared to get involved on Earth Day!

We've also been working on understanding our emotions, and how to respond to them productively. Once we're finished with *The Lorax* we're planning to create our own

short puppet show about emotions. You can look forward to seeing that presentation later this spring.

You may recall that in December the RE program sold multi-faith calendars to raise money for a social justice project. On March 2nd, three Beacon teens visited our class to talk about the social justice work the youth group has been doing. They discussed how they've handed out socks and lunches in Vancouver's Downtown East Side and how they created Christmas stockings for couch-surfing youth of the tri-cities. Then they shared some of the initiatives they're investigating—organizations such as the World Wildlife Fund, Covenant House, and Pets of the Homeless—and how they were raising money with a bake sale. The RE children agreed to donate the proceeds from our calendar sales, \$125, to the youth's social justice work.

We are all looking forward to the warmer weather, and to the events coming up this spring. As we look forward, we're also reflecting on the support and encouragement of the entire congregation. Thank you so much for your interest in supporting Beacon's children.

Amber



Unitarian Family Camp June 6-8, 2014

Set in the natural splendor of Port Moody's Belcarra Regional Park, the camp offers swimming, boating, hiking, climbing, children's programming, workshops for youth/adults, campfires and other fun communal events. Heated cabins with electricity. Meals provided. *Note: you do not need children to attend Family Camp!*

Registration deadline: Wed. April 30 Adults: \$145; Children: \$130

Download a brochure/registration form at
www.beaconunitarian.org/sasamat.html or

see **Laura Redmond** or **Peggy Lunderville** for more information.

**The Energy of Sound:
A Choral Workshop**
with Alison Nixon

Saturday, June 7th,
10-11:30 am
1:30-4 pm



**Writing for a
Personal Religion**
with Franci Louann

Sunday, June 8th,
1-3pm



**Climbing Wall or
High Ropes Course**

Sunday, June 8th,
1-3 pm, 3:30-5 pm

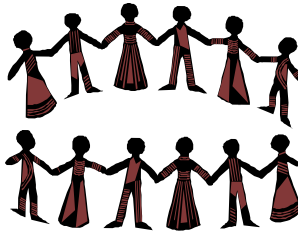


Affinity Groups

Beacon's "Affinity Groups" include several small groups which are always equally welcoming to newcomers and seasoned Beaconites. So, if you'd like to meet with Beaconites in a warm and supportive environment, check out our small groups.

Lunch Bunch - meets every Thursday at noon; for information contact Ivy Hubbard 604-527-9990.

Choir - Tuesday rehearsals, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. at Miller Park School. New members most welcome. For more choir info: call Charlene 604-464-3992.



Humanist Group Meeting We are an open group and you are welcome. Next meeting is on Sunday, March 30, 7.30 pm at Astoria House, Port Coquitlam. Marilyn Medén presents: Assisted suicide? Assisted death? What choice have we?

We will look at Marilyn's novel, *Against The Undertow*, as a starting point for discussion of these questions from legal and personal points of view.

Contact is Joy Silver 605-941-2606 or odetojoy@telus.net

Soup Lunch

There will be a soup & sandwich lunch on April 27, after church, and before the AGM. To contribute, please contact Peggy Lunderville at 604-522-3001, or plunder@gmail.com



Notice of Annual General Meeting

Sunday April 27, after the soup lunch. All members and friends of Beacon are welcome to attend.

Agenda includes:

- Annual reports of President & committees
- Report of Financial Reviewer & 2013 Financial Statements
- Appointment of 2014 Financial Reviewer
- Report of Nominating Committee & Election of 2014-15 Board and Nominating Committee
- Selection of the Sharing the Plate Charity for 2014-15.

Only current members in good standing who joined prior to Feb 27 are eligible to vote.

Directory Update

Rozanne Thomson has a new email address. Please update your directory: [<rozanne_thomson@telus.net>](mailto:rozanne_thomson@telus.net)

Share the Food Bank Project @Beacon

April 6 is Beacon's next Food Bank Sunday. Thanks for generosity these past two months - over \$200.00 has been forwarded to SHARE. Please fill out an envelope with your name and address for donations of \$20.00 +. And your small change adds up, too. Anita and John Hagen, Food Bank volunteers

Vision/Mission Statement UPDATE

It's almost done!!!! The raw data is being collated, the wordsmiths are sharpening their pencils and on **Sunday April 6th**, the first draft of the Vision Statement will be revealed at the Sunday service. Directly following the service there will be a Congregational Conversation on the draft statement.

The small group conversations on the vision of Beacon's future have been revealing and stimulating. There have been surprising echoes through all the small discussion groups, as well as unique and inspiring perspectives. Every conversation I have been part of teaches me something valuable about what Beacon means to you. I have been deeply moved and inspired by participants' heartfelt stories about the importance of the Beacon community in their lives, as a place of caring and connection, learning and growth.

If you have been unable to contribute your thoughts at one of the Dessert Dialogues and you still want to, then contact me, Rev. Debra Thorne, at minister@beaconunitarian.org before April 1st, or show up on April 6th.

Creating Deep and Meaningful Worship Services

A workshop led by Rev. Debra Thorne

Thursday April 3 from 7 to 9 pm, at the Hamilton's.

This is a workshop for anyone interested or even curious about the creation and conducting of a Sunday service.

Consider coming to this workshop whether you want to lead a whole service, read a poem or tell a children's story. Rev. Debra Thorne will cover the different roles of Service Leader and Service Coordinator, how to support the 'flow' of the service, how to find readings, and most important...how to speak with heart and authority from the pulpit.

To sign up for this workshop contact Marilyn Medén at m.j.meden@telus.net or 604-469-6797.

Anti-Racism Workshops

The first meeting for the anti-racism workshop was held February 19th, 2 pm, at Allegra Sloman's house. The second meeting, which has been postponed, will be on the subject of the "Indian Act" and other native issues, and will be held on Wednesday, April 2, 7 - 9 pm. Please contact Allegra at 778-735 -267 or 604-526-7901 to see if there are spaces available.



Sharing the Plate 2014

Restorative Justice: More Applicable than Ever

by Gurinder Mann



There may have been a time that we rarely heard of elementary school children committing crimes or offences, but that is no longer the case. It appears that more and more often, even before their teenage years, children are breaking laws. Those days seem to be long gone when the worst thing a school child would do was speak rudely or fight with a classmate. More children seem to be displaying a lack of hesitation in committing offences, which leads to the obvious concern: if they begin to commit offences in elementary schools, what will they do as they get older?

These concerns have certainly initiated a dialogue in our communities, as to what should be done to address this matter. Is it today's society? Is it the iPhones? Is it social media? Or are kids growing up faster? It is likely a combination of many things.

Elementary schools that have chosen to utilize restorative justice as a tool have certainly benefited. Allowing children to accept responsibility for their actions, learn from their behaviour, and make things right, is an approach that will educate and support them to improve their conduct.

Nominating Committee Report

Sue Sparlin and **Peggy Lunderville** are completing their terms of office as President and Vice President.

The Nominating Committee is pleased to introduce four members to form the Executive of the Beacon Board of Trustees for the next two years: Listed alphabetically, they are: **Terry McComas**, **Nancy Rupert**, **Audrey Taylor**, **Carol Woodworth**.

The four nominees have already met together, with a representative of the Nominating committee and our Minister. They have agreed to test a model of collaborative leadership and shared responsibilities as they undertake the Duties of Officers: president, vice president, secretary, treasurer as defined in the Beacon By-Laws. As the biographies indicate, the four executive candidates bring commitment and broad experience to provide Beacon with strong and visionary leadership. **(Bios on next page)**

The executive members will be joined on the Board by Trustees **Peggy Lunderville**, **Jane Shoemaker** and **Rob Warner**.

Nominating Committee members: Anita Hagen, Marilyn Medén, Joan Morris, Jane Shoemaker

Bios for Board Executive

Terry McComas: Trained as an Analytical Chemist, I worked for a decade in Health & Welfare Canada's illicit drug lab, where I provided analyses of seized materials, together with paperwork required by the Courts and, if requested, expert testimony on the analysis.

After that time, I could no longer endure the work, as I have always believed that substance abuse, while self-destructive, should be the decision of the abuser, rather than the Government of Canada. So I resigned and explored other aspects of our Criminal Justice System, as a volunteer - simultaneously teaching literacy at Burnaby Correctional Centre for Women, serving on the Crisis Intervention Team with Surrey RCMP Victims' Services and mediating diverted cases, with Community Justice Initiatives.

Although I am relatively new to Beacon, my Board experience includes 6 years as President of the Delta Naturalists' Society, together with 2 years as a member-at-large, on the Board of the Royal City Humane Society.

I know all Beaconites to be agreeable people but, were it not so, my 2 years as a volunteer mediator and 5 years as Case Manager and mediation trainer with Community Justice Initiatives - a youth and adult diversion program - might give me insights.

But, above all, I think my most relevant qualification is a deep sense of appreciation for the instant community of friends and colleagues that Beacon has provided me. If elected, my privilege will be to serve.

Nancy Rupert: I have been honoured to serve on the Beacon Board for the past year, initially as a trustee, and then as secretary. I have been a Beacon member from about 2003-2005 and again now from 2012 to the present.

I have in the past volunteered with schools, an extended care facility in New Westminster, Planned Parenthood, the SHARE food bank (through Beacon) and with La Leche League, where I was a leader for three years. I was also involved with my children's parent participation preschool,

where I was on the executive.

Once my children were in school full-time, I returned to school to become a teacher and have been very busy balancing work and home since then. I am currently a grade 4/5 teacher in Maple Ridge.

I am excited to serve Beacon again in 2014-2015, as it promises to be an amazing year for our little church. My main passion for this year is finding new ways to let people discover the hidden jewel that is our Beacon.

Audrey Taylor: I have served on the Beacon Board of Trustees for 2 years. The first year I was a trustee and this previous year I served as Treasurer. Previous to my work with the Beacon Board, I spent close to 30 years as Executive Director for non-profit health & social service agencies in BC.

During that career, I reported directly to volunteer Boards. I also served as a Director on the North Island Regional Health Committee and one year as the chair of that committee, as well as on the Board of the North Island Crisis & Counselling Centre. I served for 1 year on the

Board of the BC Branch of the Canadian Mental Health Association.

More importantly, I think, I have been daughter, sister, granddaughter, daughter-in-law, wife, mother, grandmother, hippie, farmer and housewife. The Unitarian principles speak directly and personally to me. I cherish the Beacon "family" and truly appreciate the welcome and trust I experience in your midst.

I thank you for the opportunity to contribute to the Beacon Board of Trustees.

Carol Woodworth: My previous board experience includes 6 years on the board for the Ridge Meadows Child Development Centre. I had the pleasure of working with Audrey Taylor when she was the Executive Director of the centre.

In my career as a speech pathologist, I have always worked as part of a team: at the Child Development Centre in Surrey, the Asante Centre for Fetal Alcohol Syndrome and in the Maple Ridge School District. One of my school district responsibilities is the coordination of a committee that selects students to receive assistive technology. This

has given me many years of experience using a consensus model to make decisions.

I was raised Unitarian by my parents in Kelowna and continued that contact by mail membership in the CUC. I am very appreciative of the hard work of the original members of the congregation who brought Beacon into existence and of those who have kept Beacon going so that it was here for me when I began attending six years ago.

If elected for the board I would like to give back to this community that has provided me with inspiration, friendship, and music!

Board Bitz

By Sue Sparlin

Sapperton Hall:

The floors both upstairs and down have been refinished. We are asked to lift chairs and tables when we move them, so as to retain the beautiful finish as long as possible, and to clean up spills immediately. Also there are new rugs at each of the main doors. We are asked to put the small rugs outside the doors, weather permitting, and bring them inside when we close up. The hourly rental rate for both halls goes up May 1st to \$45 and \$40 per hour. Contact Sue Sparlin if you want to book the space.

A New Climate Change Task Force is created:

The Board affirmed the establishment of a Climate Change Task Force, whose purpose is to contribute to the education of Beacon members and the greater community about the issue of climate change and how individuals can take action to address it. This group is already actively presenting a series of seminars in conjunction with the St. Barnabas Anglican Church in New Westminster.

An Investment Policy Task Force is created:

The Board created a new Investment Policy Task Force as an ad hoc committee, consisting of one Trustee and at least two and no more than four church members. The purpose of the committee is to research and recommend an Investment Policy to be presented to the Board within the next nine months. Terry McComas was named as the Trustee on the Task Force. The need for this process arose out of a congregational discussion after church with Nick Cheng, Financial Advisor with Edward Jones.

Building Fund Monies to get better interest rates:

The Board agreed that the Building Fund could be earning a better interest rate than it does at present. They directed the Treasurer to move \$164,000 of the \$184,000 in the fund to be invested in secure GICs that will generate more interest than at present and to do this by the end of April 2014. Discussion included the need for the funds to be fully insured and for them to have a term of one year or less, pending the adoption of an Investment Policy.

Funding for CUC Delegate to attend CUC AGM in Montreal:

The Board moved to make available the full amount of \$578 currently in the Conference Fund to be used to assist the CUC Delegate to attend the CUC AGM on Beacon's behalf. In addition, the Delegate could apply for a subsidy from the CUC which if granted could amount to \$500. Since it will cost approximately \$1700 for the entire trip, including travel, meals, accommodation and registration, your Delegate will likely not be able to attend. However, Beacon will be represented by Rev. Debra who will vote at the AGM as Beacon's official delegate.

Sharing the Plate Nominees:

Because there is no Social Justice Committee, the Board took on the responsibility for selecting the three nominees for next year's Sharing the Plate program. Out of the four submitted, the Board selected three: Rivershed BC, New View Society, and Wildlife Rescue Association. A brief description of these three fine charitable organizations can be found elsewhere in the newsletter. (see page 9)

Rev. Debra to increase her time from half to three-quarter time:

The Board received notification of an unsolicited donation from a person who wishes to remain anonymous that will be dedicated to extending Rev. Debra Thorne's ministry from half-time to three-quarter time. After due consultation with Rev. Debra, the Board gratefully accepted the donation and Rev. Debra accepted the increase in hours. The Board agreed that Rev. Debra's additional time should be directed toward being present at Beacon one additional Sunday per month, working more with the Youth, and assisting the congregation in successfully completing the Mission/Vision process. For more details see Rev. Debra's column elsewhere in this newsletter.

Submitted by Sue Sparlin, President, on behalf of the Board of Trustees.



Our next Board Meeting is Wednesday, April 9th at Lundervilles, gathering at 7:15 pm for a 7:30 pm start.

Beacon members are welcome to attend as observers.

Sharing the Plate 2014-2015 Nominees

One to be voted on at the Beacon AGM on April 27, 2014

(listed in alphabetical order - no ranking implied)

NEW VIEW SOCIETY, Port Coquitlam

(1st principle and 2nd principle)

The New View Society was established in the Tri-Cities in August 1973 to cope with the de-institutionalization of patients from Riverview Psychiatric Hospital. Many previous patients were now living in the community, and needed social, recreational and work programs to assist them with community integration. New View Society was formed to meet that need.

Our vision is to promote recovery in a friendly, safe and supportive environment for individuals affected by mental illness in the Tri-Cities.

New View recognizes the essential worth, dignity and capability of every person with a mental illness, and supports them to achieve their potential. Each person is valued for who they are, not who they could be.

The New View Society provides services for persons affected by mental illness, including:

- ◆ persons living with a mental illness and/or addiction, including people whose work is impacted by their mental health;
- ◆ youth transitioning into adulthood with mental illness;
- ◆ adults and seniors with mental illness going through major changes or dislocation;
- ◆ families impacted by mental illness, and
- ◆ local employers and community groups and agencies interested in learning about mental illness.

New View Society provides subsidized accommodation and support. In addition, the newly opened Iris House offers a Young Adult Housing program for adults aged 19-35 with a primary mental health diagnosis who have experienced challenges in maintaining housing.

The New View Clubhouse is a cooperative community designed to create a healthy environment where individuals recovering from mental illness can achieve the confidence and skills necessary to reach personal goals.

RIVERSHED BC, Port Moody (7th principle)

Rivershed BC is a non-profit organization whose chief activity is education, awareness and stewardship of our riversheds. Our mission is: to protect, conserve and restore the health of BC riversheds in this generation.

Our Guiding Values:

- We are a part of the natural environment which sustains all life.
- Individuals can make a difference and we encourage them to be leaders in their communities.

- We value collaboration and partnerships with other groups and individuals who share our concerns and believe in our mission.
- We value the wisdom and experience of the First Nation peoples.
- We value scientific research.
- We value the transformational impact of experiential learning.
- We live in hope that we can protect, conserve and restore our riversheds back to health.

WILDLIFE RESCUE ASSOCIATION OF BC,

Burnaby (7th principle)

The Wildlife Rescue Association of BC provides leadership in medically treating and rehabilitating wildlife and in promoting the welfare of wild animals in the urban environment, through community outreach and education.

Our vision is to continually improve the welfare of urban wildlife.

Our care facility, the Care Centre on the south shore of Burnaby Lake, needs food and medical supplies and other items to help care for the 4,000-plus animals brought here every year from across the Lower Mainland, the rest of BC and further afield.

Metro Vancouver is developing rapidly and animals living in the urban environment face many challenges such as busy roads, loss of habitat, pollution, pet predation, poisoning, unsecured garbage and direct human cruelty.

With a team of professional wildlife rehabilitators and an army of volunteers we are able to provide temporary refuge to a diverse range of animals. Once the animals in care are healthy and ready to live in the wild, they are released back to their natural habitat.

Our public education and outreach includes a wildlife helpline, the EarthFest community festival, year-round nature camps, and hundreds of presentations and displays throughout the Lower Mainland.

This Pretty Planet

Our part of the Interconnected Web

May 4, 2014, 3 pm

Sapperton Hall, 318 Keary Street

New Westminster, BC

Tickets:

\$15, families \$25

Call: 604-513-1526

Spring concert presented by:

Beacon Unitarian Church Choir,

Musicians, Children and Youth.

Director: Charlene Dabrule

Accompanist: David Hamilton

April 2014

- Wednesday, April 2 Anti-Racism workshop (7-9 pm)
- Thursday, April 3 Worship Workshop see page 6
- Sunday, April 6 *Seeds of Growth* with **Rev. Debra Thorne** (choir sings - Food Bank collection)
- Wednesday April 9 Board Meeting 7:30 pm @Lundervilles
- Sunday, April 13 *A Species with Foresight* with **Jim Stephenson**
- Wednesday, April 16 Anti-Racism workshop 7-9 pm
- Sunday, April 20 *The Lorax* with **Rev. Debra Thorne** (choir sings)
- Sunday, April 27 *A Practice of Gratitude* with **Rev. Samaya Oakley** followed by soup & sandwich lunch, AGM and concert dress rehearsal
- Sunday, April 27 Humanist Group meets, 7:30 pm
- Every Thursday at noon - Lunch Bunch, see page 6 for contact info
- Every Tuesday at 7:30 - Choir, see page 6 for contact info
- Wednesdays April 2, 16, 30 Food Bank @Como Lake United
- Saturdays April 5, 12, 26 Climate Change Series
- Every Sunday at 10:30 - Worship Service at Sapperton Hall

Looking Ahead

Save the dates!

- March 29 - Samaya Oakley's ordination (see February, p 2)
- April 27 - Beacon AGM
- May 4 - Beacon Choir Concert
- June 6 - 8 - Sasamat Family Camp