

## Why Unitarianism?

- ◆ Unitarian Churches have been performing weddings since 1972 for GLBT couples.
- ◆ Our children's programs give a balanced view of the world and ask children to make their own spiritual decisions.
- ◆ We have strong welcoming communities.
- ◆ We are a church of DOING – being socially, politically and environmentally active are our focuses.
- ◆ We offer various liberal religious education classes for children, youth and ADULTS.
- ◆ Our OWL (Our Whole Lives sexuality education classes for children, youth and adults are continentally renowned.
- ◆ We love to dance, sing, laugh, do art and have FUN!



This pamphlet has been written by Caroline Farley, the Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration at the Unitarian Church of Vancouver. My partner, Fiona, our two boys and I have been attending the Vancouver Church for 7 and a half years and were married (legally) in the church August 30, 2003. Feel free to contact me with any questions at (604) 261-7204.

I look forward to meeting you soon!



## B.C Unitarians and the GLBT Community



## **What Does Unitarianism Have to Offer You??**

Vancouver Unitarians accept and welcome all gay, lesbian, bi-sexual, transgendered, queer, questioning and two spirited members as **equal** and **valued** members of our church community. Our ministers, social justice committees and members alike have been at the forefront of the fight for glbt rights; most recently our right to equal marriage. Both as a national movement and through the efforts of individual congregations, Canadian Unitarians are working hard to ensure that glbtqq individuals are not treated as second class citizens! We (Unitarians) are straight, gay, lesbian, transgender, bisexual, Buddhist, Jewish, Humanist, Pagan, Agnostic, Atheist, environmentalist, activist, theorist, thinker and doer.

We are a church without dogma. We believe that individuals must search for truth themselves and, as such, do not try to impose a set of beliefs on parishioners. We meet for community and a shared desire to make a difference in our world. If this sounds like you, come and check out one of our services today!

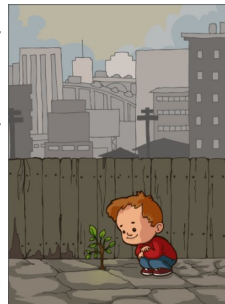


## **Weddings**

Unitarian churches have been uniting GLBT couples since 1972!! Services offer a number of options and have been widely recognized for their spiritual beauty. Weddings may take place in one of our four beautiful church sanctuaries or in the setting of your choice.

## **What About the Kids?**

Each of our four churches offers Sunday morning programs for children aged 3 to 18 years. We also offer childcare services for families with children under the age of three.



In our classes we undertake to challenge your children to explore their own personal values. We do this by looking at other religions, learning about our environment, undertaking social justice projects (letter writing campaigns, collecting and distributing donations, etc.) and, of course, having lots of fun!

“As a lesbian parent of two boys, I am so happy to have found the Unitarian Church. Where else would our kids see a standing ovation as a result of my partner and I's wedding announcement?”

## **Where Are We??**

### Vancouver:

949 West 49th Avenue

Tel. (604) 261-7204

Email: [ucv@telus.net](mailto:ucv@telus.net)

Website:

[www.vancouver.unitarians.ca](http://www.vancouver.unitarians.ca)

### North Shore

370 Mathers Avenue, West Vancouver

Tel. (604)926-1621

Email: [nsuc@telus.net](mailto:nsuc@telus.net)

Website: [www.nsuc.ca](http://www.nsuc.ca)

### Coquitlam:

#903, 1926 Como Lake Ave.

Tel. (604)939-2213

Email: [beaconchurch@telus.net](mailto:beaconchurch@telus.net)

Website: [www.beaconunitarian.org](http://www.beaconunitarian.org)

### South Fraser (Surrey)

13775 - 70th Avenue, Surrey

Tel. (604) 512-9032

Email: [info@sfuc.bc.ca](mailto:info@sfuc.bc.ca)

Website: [www.sfuc.bc.ca](http://www.sfuc.bc.ca)