

## Introducing our settled ministry candidate – Rev. Victoria Ingram!



The Search Committee is delighted to introduce you to Victoria Ingram, our chosen candidate to become the settled minister for the First Unitarian Church of Hamilton.

Victoria is currently in her third year of settled minister for the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Los Gatos (UUFLG) in California. Ministry is a second career for Victoria, having been involved in work related to organizational development, training, consulting, and executive coaching for over 25 years. She received her Master of Divinity Degree from Starr King School for the Ministry in 2007. You can find out more about Victoria by visiting the UUFLG website at [www.uuflg.org](http://www.uuflg.org), where you will find a more detailed bio, and both PDF and MP3 versions of past sermons she has given. The Search Committee will also make more information available about Victoria leading up to candidating week.

Victoria readily accepted our call. She and her husband Carl visited Hamilton on one of the coldest weekends of the winter, at which time they visited our church and toured the city, both on their own and with members of the Search Committee. Despite the weather, they are very keen to make Hamilton their home. Carl is a semi-retired management consultant and executive coach; his two grown children are an important part of Victoria and Carl's life. They enjoy cultural events, travel, movies, and being out-of-doors.

Members of the congregation will have the chance to meet Victoria during candidating week, from May 8 -16. In addition to the two Sunday services, there will be a range of other events that week at which members of the congregation can get to know Victoria better. In the meantime, the Search Committee will be encouraging everyone to prepare their own thoughts and questions through a range of communications, including weekly bookmarks in the order of service with thought-provoking questions.

May 16 is the big day – when the congregation, having gotten to know Victoria and heard her give two sermons, will vote on whether to extend a call for her to become our settled minister. The Search Committee already believes that she would serve our community well, but you will have to make your own decision about what is best for our church. Please do plan to attend church on May 16 for this important vote.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact any member of the Search Committee. We are: Ed Canning, Roy Dahl, Beverly Horton, Jennifer Kaye, Barbara Wallace, Joanne Waters, and Mark Zenchuk.

## **Greetings from Victoria!**

Dear Members and Friends of the First Unitarian Church of Hamilton - I am delighted to be the candidate selected by your Search Committee and look forward to meeting you in May! I'm impressed with the work your congregation has taken on to become a community in right relationship, the commitment you show to being a welcoming and growing Unitarian congregation, and your desire to be of service in the larger community. I share your love of Unitarianism Universalism, and I want to serve with you as we continue to make the Hamilton church a beacon of hope and faith.

Here are a few more details about us that you might be interested in. Carl and I already love what we know of Canadian culture and spirit, and have dreamed of moving north for many years. Now, we have that opportunity! We are both originally from colder climes, so despite the fact that we currently live in sunny California, we anticipate enjoying being in a place with four seasons, a winter nip in the air, gorgeous green trees and water. We think Hamilton will be a great place to live, and we look forward to learning more about being Canadian as we experience a new city and community. Our daughter lives in Brooklyn with her partner, and they are pretty excited to have us closer to them. Our son, who lives in Oregon, is excited about visiting! Another of our goals is to add another member to our family - a four-legged one - when we get settled in Hamilton. To that end, we'll be looking to buy a home with a dog-friendly backyard.

There will be lots for us to talk about when we see you during candidating week. I'm looking forward to hearing your dreams for the First Unitarian Church of Hamilton, your questions for me, and your stories about your life and spiritual journey. Let's get to know one another!

Love and light,  
Victoria