



The Newsletter of the Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton

874 York Street, Fredericton, N.B., E3B 3R8 (506) 451-0919

Sunday Service 11 a.m.

Web Site: <http://www.uff.ca>

Email: tuff@nbnet.nb.ca

Contents for March 2006

Upcoming Services	1
Children's Religious Education	2
International Women's Day Potluck Supper	2
From the Membership Committee	2
Paganism 101	3
Engineering Award	3
Women's Potluck	3
Does it Matter?	4
In His Name	4
Learning for Lay Leaders	5
Message from Mary Bennett	5
Labyrinth Retreat	7
Minutes of December Board Meeting	7



Upcoming Services

March 5 A Service of Thanks and Dedication —Thank goodness for disgruntledness. Ken Brown hated the old TUFF folding chairs; Wendy Dionne is less than charmed by 60s decor—especially when it is both peeling and unappealing. Both forms of disgruntledness have resulted in gifts to the fellowship, and our service on March 5 is one of thanks and dedication. Ken's legacy (via Margaret Brown-Fitzgerald) bought the sturdy and oh-so-useful chairs we use at every gathering; and Wendy's tribute to her father (via work done by Len Legere) will give our meeting room a fresh new look. Come to our March 5 service when we publicly thank Ken Brown, Margaret Fitzgerald, Leo Dionne, Wendy Dionne, and Len Legere, for their practical expressions of love for our U*U home. (Remember Oscar Wilde's 1st words: "Either the wall paper goes or I do." Well, the wall paper is going; come and see what 874 York looks like now ! !)

March 12 Service Leaders Sharon and Don Flatt Join us for a service intriguingly entitled U*U Eucharist (! !) Leave it to this talented and lively pair to pull threads from our Christian heritage and rearrange them for thoughtful reflection: It is the season

of Lent for Christian people and many are participating in a Eucharist Lent as they work through a time of penitance. The 40 or so days before Easter can also have meaning for those who don't follow Christian teachings. Lent is also a time when many recognise our community interconnectedness by doing more than normal for people in need through giving and volunteering. It is a time to prepare for new beginnings in the Spring for the earth and ourselves. Join us on the 12th to inspire and renew ourselves by celebrating a unique UU eucharist which was created by Rev. Chuck Freeman of Live Oak UU Church.

March 19 Service Leader and Presenter Rev Ray Drennan Growing Healthy Communities: Throughout our history we Unitarians and Universalists have often viewed ourselves as the religion of the mature individual; the one willing and able to thinking and acting independently. Along the way however have we not perhaps failed to develop mature and healthy communities?

March 26 Sharing Our Faith Sunday. Presenter and Service Leader, Heather Lunergan: Canadian Unitarian and Universalist Congregations hold a Sharing Our Faith service each year to celebrate our religion in Canada. Offerings are taken for growth projects in our congregations—TUFF has received Sharing Our Faith grants.

April 2 Service Leader and Presenter Rev Kitsy Winthrop The Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton, sponsored by the Adult Program Committee, enthusiastically announces the upcoming visit of Rev. Kitsy Winthrop, U*U minister from Portland, Maine. As she did last year, Rev. Kitsy will use her time with us to lead workshops and discussions, and to meet with those interested in a private session with her. (Call or eMail the 'Ndance card' coordinator, Anne Leslie, to book your time with Rev. Kitsy: aleslie@nb.sympatico.ca 363-5412.) Please contact the child care coordinator if you need child-care for any of the daytime activities. Also, do feel free to contact the food coordinator if you have anything to contribute in this area. (Try me, allison calvern, until these two coordinators have been named: acalvern@nbnet.nb.ca 459-1436, thanks.)

April 9 Service Leader and Presenter Rev Ray Drennan
The Courage to Leap: The 21st Century is well under way and yet it seems that Unitarians and Universalists are stuck in a 20th paradigm and some, it seems to me, are wanting to push us back into a 19th century paradigm. What might be a 21st century paradigm for us? Do we have the courage to leap into it?

April 16 Linda Sprague and Tony Fitzgerald: The theme will be the “Music and Poetry through Poetry and Music”. We have done this before, believe it or not.

Do you have a favourite piece of music you want to share? A poem that gave inspiration or comfort? Are you willing to say a few words to introduce the work? Would you like to read the poem? Perform the music, or loan us a CD?

Bring your suggestions to either Linda or me and we will do our best to organize everything and wrap it in an order of service.

April 30 Presenter Rev Anne Treadwell Inward Gardens:
Let a Thousand Varied Flowers Bloom! —U*Us claim to be at least tolerant, and at best accepting, of diversity both within and outside our congregations. Yet we may have an inclination to feel a bit superior to members of other faiths who rely less on a rational and scientific approach to belief and more, perhaps, on tradition and authority. Anne will suggest that just as a dahlia can never be a daffodil, our religious outlook is largely determined by our personality. Rather than trampling on others’ beliefs, working to understand and respect them, beyond lip-service to multifaith holidays and customs, may be the best way to nurture that Eden we yearn for.

In faith
allison calvern



Children’s Religious Education

The theme of our Joys and Sorrows this month seemed to be “Our background rink melted” and “I got a nice sled but haven’t been able to use it”. It sure has been a weird winter, eh? Well, this last week of February, we’re signing off and thinking about Mardi Gras and Lent. It is time to prepare for Spring. We’ll sing the “Rose in the Wintertime” once more and then it’s done. This month’s highlights include some fantastic discussions about prayer and love. We are enjoying using some of the resources found on the UU Worship Web. I totally recommend it for home use and services. Lots of great stuff! Finally, I’d like to express my sincere thanks to Lindsey, Anne’s daughter and Linda for playing for the children while the

Flatt’s were away. I’m also thankful that Molly was able to facilitate in my absence. It sure is great to have a pool of RE volunteers! It makes it easy for everyone and we can all have fun!

In faith
Sharon Flatt



International Women’s Day Potluck Supper



Wednesday, March 8, 5:30 p.m.
Wilmot Church Hall
(corner of King and Carleton Streets)
All women are invited. No charge, but please bring food to share.

Featuring:

- Karen Seabrooke from Inter Pares: *Women’s Struggle for Justice: Weapons, War and Women’s Resistance*
- Musical satire from the Raging Grannies
- ERA rock music for social justice

Sponsored by Fredericton Voice of Women for Peace



From the Membership Committee

If you are new to the Unitarian Fellowship and would like more information about Unitarianism/Universalism and about the Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton, we have just what you are looking for! The Membership Committee will be sponsoring a program we call “THE NEW U”. In this 4 session program we will share our own religious (or not) background, explore the history of the Unitarian/Universalist movement and learn about the background of our Fellowship and how it operates. It can be a lot of fun and sharing.

If you would like to participate, please call Sheila Moore 363-2480. We will work out the best time for all those wanting to participate.

To whet your appetite, here are a couple of samples from the book “100 Questions That Non-Members Ask About Unitarian Universalism”.

IS UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISM REALLY A RELIGION? In dealing with beliefs and theology, it’s important to note that Unitarian Universalism is a way of being religious rather than a religious doctrine. For us,

religion is an ongoing search for meaning, purpose, value and spiritual depth in ones's life. We believe that individuals are entitled to make their own search, and that not all persons (not even all UUs) are going to share the same beliefs. Ours is a non-creedal, non-doctrinal religion which affirms the individual's freedom of belief. For this reason it is not possible to give a blanket answer to whether or not UUs believe in God, Jesus, the Bible or life after death. Although we do not all believe the same thing about these and other matters, we do believe that each person has the integrity and the ability to come to terms with their religious beliefs in a way that is right for that person.

WHAT IS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE FLAMING CHALICE? In the days preceding World War II, the Boston-based Unitarian Service Committee was attempting to rescue Unitarians and other religious liberals from those parts of Europe (notable Czechoslovakia) where their lives were threatened by Nazism. The flaming chalice was the code by which those needing to be rescued identified themselves to the Unitarian Service Committee. This symbol, which came into widespread use in Sunday services during the last 30 years, is usually lit at the beginning of the service, accompanied by a simple spoken ritual. In our services today the chalice symbolizes wisdom, knowledge, and spiritual insight, and the flame that rises from the chalice represents the light of illumination and understanding.

In fellowship
Sheila Moore



Paganism 101

Sharon and Don Flatt are pleased to offer the Paganism 101 course this spring. They hope to start Sunday, March 19 at 6pm. Childcare will be provided. The course will run every Sunday until and including the Sunday after the CUC ACM, June 4, with the exception of May 7. For the ACM Sunday, Sharon and Don will co-host an afternoon "Paganism in Your Congregation" workshop with the good UU folks who introduced them to UU Paganism, Cassie and David Rawlinson, but will not run an evening course. There will be a sliding scale fee of \$30 for materials which includes the cost of a binder, arts materials and childcare. Please email or phone Sharon or Don to register. Friends of TUFF are welcome but we reserve the right to limit class size. You should plan to miss no more than one class to get the most out of the sessions, not including the ACM workshop. Contact Don or Sharon at 454-7634 or daflatts@nb.sympatico.ca

"To study Paganism is to participate in part of the great religious ferment of our day....It is a time of change, loss and creativity. Emerging in this chaotic era, Paganism is both a reconstruction of old religious expressions, and an

invention of new ones to meet the demands of contemporary times." Rev. Sydney A. Morris, Paganism 101

In faith
Sharon Flatt



Engineering Award

Willard Boyle, a Canadian scientist who helped invent a light-sensitive chip, accepted a prestigious engineering award in the U.S. on Tuesday.

Boyle and George Smith will share the \$500,000 US award for the invention of the "Charge-Coupled Device (CCD), a light-sensitive component at the heart of digital cameras and other widely used imaging technologies," the U.S. National Academy of Engineering said.

Some of the best-known applications of the invention are in consumer electronics, such as digital cameras, video cameras, and scanners.

The Hubble Space Telescope, NASA's Mars rovers and surveillance satellite also use the device.

The device is more sensitive than film, and is also an essential part of medical-imaging devices used in diagnostic tests and surgery.

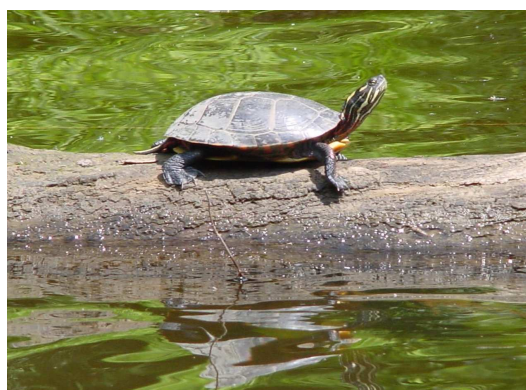
Boyle and Smith came up with the idea for the device while working at Bell Laboratories in 1969.

"It was after maybe an hour's work," Boyle recalled. "We went over to the blackboard and we had some sketching there. We went down to our models lab and made one."

The prize is well deserved, say Boyle's admirers.

"I don't know of many inventions that created whole new industries," said William Wulf of the National Academy of Engineering.

Boyle is now 81 and lives in Halifax. He doesn't own a digital camera, saying things have gotten too complicated.



A digital camera, a canoe and the Nashwaaksis stream



Women's Potluck

The next women's pot luck dinner will be March 31st, at 6pm, at the Fellowship. Janet Crawford and Barbara Fairweather will host the evening. "Show and tell" topic still to be decided on. Rev. Kitsy Winthrop has been invited to join us for an evening of good food and good conversation. For more information contact Joan Brewer at 455-5169 or jrjeb@nb.sympatico.ca



Does it Matter?

My father asked if I am gay
I asked does it matter?
He said "no, not really"
I said yes.
He said get out of my life!
...I guess it mattered.

My boss asked if I am gay
I asked does it matter?
He said "no, not really"
I told him yes.
He said you're fired, faggot!
...I guess it mattered.

My friend asked if I am gay
I asked does it matter?
He said "no, not really"
I told him yes.
He said don't call me your friend!
...I guess it mattered.

My lover asked do you love me?
I asked does it matter?
He said yes
I told him I love you
He said let me hold you in my arms!!!
For the first time in my life something matters!!!

My god asked me do you love yourself?
I said does it matter?
He said yes.
I said how can I love myself? I am gay!
He said that is what I made you...!
...Nothing again will ever matter



In His Name

First they came for the cartoonists, but I was not a cartoonist, so I became one.

The recent uproar about the publication of the Jyllands-Posten cartoons and the rioting by what can only be described as fanatics has caused me some anguish. To resolve that anguish, I had to take my own little stand. In taking that stand, I put together a cartoon, mostly a collage of images from the InterNet with some minor editing. I wrote an essay detailing why I felt the need to create the cartoon and condensed the major point of the essay into a short form which could be submitted as a letter to the editor.

The whole works was sent to my MP, my PM and the editors of a couple of newspapers. I've no doubt that they will be dismissed as the work of a crank and that may not be an unreasonable view. Still and all, I feel the need to make my concern known.

Because the cartoon contains an image which is intended to represent the prophet Muhammad, peace be upon him, and because that is offensive to Muslims, and because our own religion strives to be respectful of other religions, I will not publish the cartoon in this newsletter. Anyone who would like to read the original essay and see the cartoon can ask me. I will describe the cartoon in words as follows. It is a four panel cartoon:

In the upper left panel, we see the prophet Muhammed, peace be upon him, and the arch-angel Gabriel in heaven with the angel pointing out something on the earth. The east coast of Africa and the Red Sea are clearly visible so we know the angel is gesturing towards the middle east.

The upper right panel shows a congregation of the faithful at prayer.

The lower left panel shows those same people rioting in the streets with an embassy burning in the background. There is an implication that something said in the mosque has inspired the violence and anger.

The final panel now focuses on the profoundly sad face of the prophet. A single immense tear is rolling down his cheek and reflecting the blue of the planet below.

The essay stresses the importance of freedom of religion and how that freedom is threatened when any group of people insist that everyone has to observe the canon of a particular faith. Respect is a two way street. As one of our hymns says: "Sometimes, to question, truly, is an answer". The short letter to the editor, I will publish here as a letter from the editor:

We have in this country, freedom of religion. The most important and basic freedom of religion is freedom from religion. Without freedom from religion, there is no freedom of religion. When people demand that I observe the rules of their religion, I have a basic right to ask why and to ask questions about the foundation of those rules.

Experts on the subject inform us that there is nothing in the Qu'ran that prohibits the production of images of the prophets. Thus, we are not in violation of the word of god as revealed by the prophet Muhammad, peace be upon him,

when we produce such images.

Early in their initial expansion, Muslims encountered Christian sects which were committing the heresy of worshipping the icons which they had created, the images of Christ and Mary. So as to prevent Muslims from committing a similar heresy, a fatwa was issued prohibiting the production of such images. Clearly then, it is the veneration and, ultimately, worship of images which the fatwa attempts to prevent.

I have seen the Jyllands-Posten cartoons and, believe me, there is nothing there to venerate or worship. Most of the images are obviously the work of people commissioned to produce something about which they did not particularly care strongly. A couple of the images are thought provoking and thus worthy as cartoons. Clearly, the cartoons are not in violation of the original intent of the fatwa.

I think I can argue, though, that most of the arguments that I have heard about why Muslims are justified in protesting the images would lead me to conclude that the fatwa has, ultimately, failed. The followers of Islam now appear to have raised the prophet to such a position in their pantheon that they argue that it is sacrilege to produce an image of something so holy. By protesting cartoons, even peacefully, they are committing the heresy of venerating the image so much that they refuse to allow its production. Is this not the very same heresy that the fatwa was to prevent?

*In fellowship
Tony Fitzgerald*



Learning for Lay Leaders

A great learning opportunity for lay leaders will debut directly before the start of the UUA General Assembly in St. Louis this year. “UU University” will offer a day and a half of specialized training for current and future congregational presidents, financial leaders and membership leaders.

The Rev. Dr. Peter Steinke will be the keynote speaker for congregational presidents. Dr. Steinke will discuss congregations as emotional systems and leadership in emotional systems. Steinke’s insights and skill will provide leaders with the inspiration and critical skills needed for the demanding work they do for their congregations .

Financial leaders will learn about the language of generosity, gain a solid understanding of effective stewardship, and build knowledge about managing your congregation’s money. The Rev. Jeanne Pupke (UU Fellowship of Central Oregon, in Bend) and Cecilia Kingman-Miller (Wy’east UU Congregation in Portland) will be the dynamic presenters of “Let’s Talk Stewardship!” Dan Brody and Larry Ladd, current and former financial advisors of the UUA,

will provide the financial management workshop.

Membership leaders will learn how to “Repel Fewer Visitors!” and close the invisible ‘revolving door’ in their congregation, while exploring effective means of moving visitors to enthusiastic membership.

“UU University,” is a new program which was suggested by Congregational Presidents convening at GA last year. It’s intended to be presented every other year in synch with GA, to help new and continuing congregational leaders gain the knowledge you need. Program registration is \$95 per person, and is separate from General Assembly. All programming will be held at America’s Center in St. Louis, MO. Dates are June 20 and 21, immediately before GA (which is June 21-25).

For more information and registration, including a downloadable flyer and sign-up form, go to www.uua.org/uuniversity.



Message from Mary Bennett

February 15, 2006

FEBRUARY IS THE SHORTEST MONTH OF THE YEAR?!

I know that factually there’s no question that February is the shortest month of the year, a full two to three days shorter of the other months. But doesn’t it feel long?

For CUC, February is one of the busiest months of the year, second only to May, the month of our Annual Conference and Meeting.

One of only three yearly board meetings are held during the first weekend of February.

All six staff attend the board meeting, including a once-a-year “staff focus group” where they are invited to give feedback to me about my role as manager and leader. I welcome this feedback and appreciate their thoughtful reflections on my strengths as well as the areas where I could improve in ways that would make their own work more enjoyable and productive. We use an external facilitator and the board’s Human Resources committee are present as this is part of my yearly performance review.

During the following week, all six staff meet for what we call our All Hands On Deck meeting (shortened to “AHOD”!) We focus on big-picture planning, decision-making and professional development. It’s great to all be together in one place and we take advantage of the wonderful CUC resources to assist in providing facilitation and new ideas. Bert Christensen, our webweaver, gave us a presentation on the “Virtual Church”; Art Brewer gave us support around Strategic Communication Planning; Stan Yack came and talked with us about “Technol-

ogy for Teams” and Monica Bennett (no relation!) helped us revisit agreements regarding Conflict Resolution and also facilitated a session called “Goals Handshake”. The idea here is that as an interdependent team, one person may be relying on someone else in order to achieve their goals. This is a chance to say that explicitly and ensure that the other person is aware and agreeable to the request.

This time is usually followed as it was this year by our four regional Lifespan Learning Service Consultants joining us and then meeting on their own with Director of Lifespan Learning, Sylvia Bass West. This year a lot of their focus was on the Lifespan Learning Community program that will be unveiled at the CUC Annual Conference and Meeting.

Linda Thomson, Director of Regional Services - East, and I then headed to the yearly Mid-winter Retreat in the greater Toronto area. Linda delivered the keynote address on “Are You My Minister?” (a look at transitions and shared ministry); I facilitated a session called “Rolling in Resources” for Lay Chaplains and together the two of us represented the CUC board in presenting the new draft strategic planning framework. Summarized by Go 4 It, the four parts focus on: Go On; Go Deep; Go Out and Go Big. More on this will be presented at the Annual Conference and Meeting.

Sylvia Bass West, our Director of Lifespan Learning, then headed out to the LREDA (Liberal Religious Educators Association) Board meeting and Sara McEwan to meet with BC and Western region ministers in Vancouver.

Working across the country, mainly by email, supplemented by teleconferences, our in-person time is much valued and we all try to get the most out of it. Travel time and costs means it makes sense to “bunch up” our meetings but it can feel a bit like a marathon.

I know from reading congregational newsletters that this is also a busy time in many of our congregations. Important meetings during the last two Sundays of January abounded and several congregations are interviewing (“Pre-candidating”) potential ministers at this time, with intention of making decisions in spring. Several congregations are considering or in the midst of building moves or major renovations.

Although, as I write this, the month is only half-over I feel that I’ve logged far more than 15 days already. What about you?

Take care of yourselves and each other,

Mary Bennett

Executive Director

CANADIAN UNITARIAN COUNCIL

mary@cuc.ca

ANNOUNCEMENT - Our Administrative Assistant is

leaving the CUC

We want to let you know that our Administrative Assistant, Paola Jani, who has been with the CUC since September, 2003, is leaving us for other adventures—travel, international work and possibly graduate school.

If you have phoned the CUC office you’ll know Paola as the pleasant voice who answers our phone. Paola’s role included coordinating the congregational mailing, handling lay chaplaincy applications and assisting the board secretary in organizing logistics for board meetings and taking notes. Paola’s presence has been a positive one at our Annual Conferences, making announcements and checking rooms to make sure everything is in order. Paola is leaving as of the end of March, but will be on vacation leave after March 17.

We are considering various staffing options, probably using temporary assistance through summer and then hiring in early September. When ready the job posting will be circulated via email and posted at http://www.cuc.ca/whats_new/announcements.htm

SHORT SNIPPETS

Please use this as “fillers” for your newsletter or announcements or pass along to others who have an interest.

CanU is out!

If you are a member of a Canadian UU congregation, your latest issue of the Canadian Unitarian newsletter with a 4-page insert on the Annual Conference and Meeting is winging its way to your doorstep and should arrive in early March. If you are a member but not receiving CanU, we may have an incorrect address or your congregation has not yet updated us. You can sign up to receive it at www.cuc.ca/store. In the meantime, we send copies in bulk to every congregation so they can make copies available for new members and visitors. This issue features the conference of the International Council of Unitarians and Universalists.

Come to an Annual Conference -on one coast or the other!

Our CUC Annual Conference is in Saint John, NB in 2006 and Vancouver, BC in 2007. (Always the May long weekend - details at [cuc.ca/conference](http://www.cuc.ca/conference)). Early bird registration deadline: April 1.

New Pamphlets

Five new pamphlets on topics of Social Responsibility; Welcoming Congregations; Lay Chaplaincy; Lifespan Learning and Safe Congregations are now available for viewing and ordering at www.cuc.ca/store.

SPECIAL DATES http://www.cuc.ca/whats_new/dates.htm

What Easter Means to Unitarians by Rev. Phillip Hewett
http://www.cuc.ca/whats_new/dates.htm

Lay Chaplaincy - 35th Anniversary

2006 marks the 35th anniversary of this important program bringing rites of passage to the unchurched and “differently churched”. CUC encourages and supports all congregations in having at least two lay chaplains. To increase beyond two, you can apply to the CUC’s Lay Chaplaincy Committee. There are a total of 80 lay chaplains in Canada, and 23 are scheduled to retire by May, 2007. Four congregations do not have lay chaplains and 11 have only one. CUC is offering more training and support than ever to assist congregations in recruiting and training new lay chaplains. www.cuc.ca/lay_chaplaincy

Human Resource Procedures

Over the past five years, CUC has adopted a Performance Management System with job descriptions that link to mission/vision through accountabilities; a list of competencies for each job with a professional development policy and technology skills inventory to support continuous learning. Each year each staff member sets yearly SMART (specific, measurable, assignable, realistic, time-based) goals and then reviews them at least quarterly. Yearly we have a Job Satisfaction Interview covering the questions that are important but not directly goal-related. Staff also developed a staff covenant (and review it at least yearly) and Volunteer Guiding Principles (outlining our commitments to our volunteers). At our yearly whole staff meeting, all staff affirmed that they would recommend these processes for adaptation by our congregations. You can find our documents at www.cuc.ca/hr. Over the coming year, we plan to develop a one-day Human Resources workshop for congregations.

Take care, Mary

PS - You can now register on-line for the CUC Annual Conference and Meeting - Saint John, NB - May 19-22 at <http://kuf.provostsolutions.com/acm2006/> More information at www.cuc.ca/conference/2006

Mary Bennett Executive Director Canadian Unitarian Council
018-1179A King Street West, Toronto ON M6K 3C5
www.cuc.ca 1-888-568-5723 Vancouver: 604-617-0142



Labyrinth Retreat

The Auberge, Bouctouche, NB (North of Moncton)

www.vieuxpresbytere.nb.ca

Friday night - gathering ritual/labyrinth walk/meeting

Saturday 9:30-5pm - how to make a labyrinth—drawing/constructing/interfaith, historical uses, examples etc.

We may wind up creating a temporary labyrinth on the

grounds of the Auberge unless one appears before then, in which case we will just enjoy it.

Sat. night - closing ritual/labyrinth walk

Fees: include two nights shared accommodation;

Friday dinner, (could be any time from 6:00 - 8:00) + snacks

Saturday Breakfast,lunch and dinner + snacks

Sunday a.m. breakfast

	Shared	Single
By August 31	\$215	\$250
By September 30	\$240	\$275
After September 30	\$265	\$300
(if space available)		

Facilitator: Mary Bennett, Executive Director of the Canadian Unitarian Council. Mary first got interested in labyrinths at a conference at the Vancouver School of Theology. She has given other workshops and worship services around the Labyrinth theme and using it as a metaphor for life—individual or congregational life.

Send cheque to CUC office - 018 -1179A King Street West, Toronto ON M6K 3C5 or call 1-888-568-5723/416-489-4121 to reserve via VISA.

Cancellations subject to a \$25 administrative fee prior to September 30. No refunds after September 30, although substitutions of a different participant is fine.

Sunday, October 8, 2006

Location: TBA

Worship Service: Religious Community: Labyrinth or Maze?

All welcome.



Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting

January 18, 2006

Present: Ed Leslie, Allison Calvern, George DeMille, Patricia desChamps, Tony Fitzgerald, Don Flatt, Betty Ponder, and Tracy Walls; regrets: Rita van Groenewoud.

1. Opening: Don lit the chalice as Ed read an opening selection, after which . . .
2. Call to order: . . . he called the meeting to order at 7:20 pm.
3. Check-in: Those present were invited to check in.
4. Approval of agenda: MOVED (Tony & George) that the agenda, as circulated, be adopted.

CARRIED

5. Minutes of meeting of December 14: MOVED (Tracy & Don) that the minutes of the previous meeting be adopted.

CARRIED

6. Section and Financial reports

(i) Financial report: Prior to the meeting George had distributed a report (attached to minutes) showing an end-of-year operating surplus of \$2644.

MOVED (George & Patricia) that the report be accepted.
CARRIED

(ii) Programs & Ministry: Betty reported that the Adult Program Committee has met and arrangements for Sunday services are going well. The service on February 12 will feature a couple of early fellowship members speaking on "where we were" as a preparation for our mission, vision and covenanting process. Rev Kitsy Winthrop will visit from March 29 to April. A call for possible workshop sessions with her will go out soon; possible workshops are on mission, vision and covenant and/or on worship.

Ed reported that the CUUL School will be held at Carleton University July 20-23. The registration fee is around \$500; it is suggested that congregations contribute to this cost for their attendees. Mary Bennett is planning to facilitate a labyrinth workshop session at Ray Drennan's retreat in Bouctouche over the October 6 weekend.

(iii) Communications & Outreach: Don reported that the section committee chairs have not met since the last board meeting. A calendar of events at the fellowship is now available on the TUFF website and is posted also at the fellowship.

Patricia reported that the distribution of TUFF scarves to international students at St. Thomas went very well with lots of publicity. We have been asked to make this an annual program involving international students from both STU and UNB. She also noted also that we have been getting good publicity on Sunday services through articles in the Daily Gleaner.

(iv) Finance & Facilities: Tracy is checking out the requirements for a ventilation system for the basement. The possibility of getting a wheel chair ramp at an entrance to

the building was discussed.

7. 2006 Budget: Tony distributed a proposed budget for 2006 (attached to minutes) and also, for comparison, a copy of the budget for 2005. There was some discussion of capital projects that might be undertaken, particularly in light of the building inspection report. It was agreed to add \$15000 for basement renovations to meet ventilation and insulation recommendations and to increase to \$3000 the cost of providing wheel chair access to the building.

MOVED (Tony & George) that the budget, as revised, be adopted. CARRIED

8. Ad hoc committees:

(i) Covenant, Mission & Vision: Allison is planning to have a meeting of all interested on January 19.

(ii) Other ad hoc committees: The Facilities Planning committee will be meeting on Sunday, January 22.

There was discussion of the need for a fund raising committee. Tracy would be willing to serve on this and perhaps Nancy Beltrandi would be interested as well.

9. Other business:

(i) The Welcoming Congregation committee consists of Najat Abdou-McFarland, Sharon Flatt, Tony Fitzgerald, with one more to be added.

(ii) It was agreed that, while we should encourage people to attend the Sunday service at the CUC ACM in Saint John on May 21, we should also have some sort of service here for those not wishing to travel to Saint John.

(iii) George has ordered copies of the five new CUC pamphlets.

10. Closing words and adjournment: Due to members schedules it was agreed to hold the next board meeting on February 22, [Subsequently this was changed to February 23.]

On motion by Patricia the meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm.

George DeMille

Secretary-Treasurer

George DeMille
Secretary Treasurer

This space wants your material!