



The Newsletter of the Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton

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Sunday Service 11 a.m.

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Sunday Services

October 31 Debi Skidmore *Samhein* Debi will speak to us about the Pagan New Year, in Celtic traditions called Samhein, celebrated at the end of October.

November 7 The Reverend Ray Drennan *Being Reminded* The month of November calls us in many ways to remember. Whether it's All Saints, world wars, Guy Fawkes or simply turning back the clock, the month calls us to mark the time and not to forget. So, what is it that is most important for us to remember and how do we keep it in mind?

November 14 Jo-Anne Elder-Gomes *UU History / Identity*

November 21 Brune Clavette *Healing and Spirituality: Finding your Inner Health*

November 28 Alan Bentley *Spiritual Symbolism in Blake's Poetry* Alan will bring copies of poems he will analyze.

December 5 The Reverend Bill Main *Chaos Is Your Friend*



New Program for Youth Ages 9 and Up is Here

Dear members and friends,

On behalf of the Children's Religious Education Committee, I'm very pleased to announce the launch of our new program for youth ages 9 and up. To set up a separate program designed specifically to meet the needs of our older youth has been one of the top priorities of our committee this year. Unexpected staff change in September has led to a delay of the program setup. Thanks to the hard work of the committee and the support of many members of our congregation, however, we have finally gotten all the ducks in the roll to get the program under way.

The new program, titled Love Connects Us, is centered on a well-developed UU curriculum for youth ages 9 and up. With the assistance of the committee, our older youth have voted for this program that will introduce to them many ways to live our UU faith with love. They will explore topics such as Meeting People Where They Live, Kindness is the Key, One Person Makes a Difference, See Truth/True Seeing, We Are Active Creators of Our Faith, etc. The main objective of the program is to help our older youth further develop values on which UU principles are based as well as finding practical ways to live out those core values. For more information on the program, please check out

<http://www.uua.org/religiouseducation/curricula/tapestryfaith/loveconnects/index.shtml>

The program will be led by Quinn Pinco-Hartman, our new youth program facilitator. Quinn is working on her second degree—nursing at UNB. She has grown up in UU churches and has had lots of experience working with children/youth. We are very pleased to have found Quinn and are looking forward to supporting her in her work with our older youth.

We would like to invite your children, grandchildren, and their friends of ages 9 and up to join us on Sunday from 11

am to 12:30 pm. Please help us spread the word. Thank you for your continuous support!

Mei Huang
Chair, Children's Religious Committee



In Memoriam, Leo Ferrari



Ferrari, Leo Charles Joseph - 1927-2010. Leo Ferrari died peacefully in York Manor on October 7.

Leo, a beloved teacher of philosophy at St. Thomas University for many years, was their first professor emeritus. Poet, artist, a highly-regarded scholar in the field of Augustinian studies (and the founder of the Flat Earth Society of Canada) he loved laughter, and for a number of years published humorous essays in the Saint John Telegraph Journal.

After his diagnosis, it was Leo's wish to benefit others by writing about Alzheimer before the disease robbed him

of his memory. He and his wife, Lorna Drew, with the help and encouragement of the Alzheimer Society, wrote *Different Minds*, published by Goose Lane in 2005, with proceeds donated to Alzheimer research. The book documents both Leo and Lorna's response to the disease. It was his last publication.

Leo's passing is mourned and marked by his wife, Lorna; children: Pepita, Leon and Jacinta; grandchildren: Caitlin and Jasper; dear friends: Anne-Louise Brookes and Betsy Epperly, friends in the Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton; and his beloved poodle, Barkis. He leaves behind his family in Australia, and many, many friends and acquaintances, several of them former students.

Much gratitude is due those friends whose visits lightened Leo's life after York Manor became his home. Thanks also to the wonderfully compassionate and caring staff of the York Manors Atrium. Grateful thanks also to the staff of the Alzheimer Society of Fredericton, who were with us all the way. Because Leo donated his body for Alzheimer research, a memorial to that effect will be in the "Garden of Memory" at Dalhousie University in Halifax.

A wonderful memorial service was held in the chapel at St. Thomas University on Monday, October 18. Donations to the Alzheimer Society will be gratefully accepted.



God is a comedian
playing to an audience
too afraid to laugh.

Voltaire (1694 - 1778)
French author, humanist, rationalist, & satirist



Notice of Meeting

Notice about a meeting November 7th regarding the laying of hardwood flooring in the Sunday service area

In 2009 the Board unanimously passed a motion to follow the recommendations of the building committee and purchase hardwood flooring for the Sunday service area. For budget reasons, it was decided to store the flooring for a year and install it sometime in 2010.

This year the building committee contacted a carpenter who is employed as an instructor for the carpenter's union, and he agreed to supervise the installation of the flooring at a price within the budgeted cost. He suggested that because of the 7 inch step down into the area, it might be a good time to raise the floor to make it level with

the hallway and piano area, thus eliminating the danger of falls and making the whole area accessible for people in wheelchairs. He indicated that the increased cost would be minimal, and the Building Committee recommended to the Board that the floor be raised at the same time as the flooring is installed.

Board members have discussed balancing the safety issue with the aesthetic consideration of not having a high ceiling in the room if the floor is raised. The Board asked an architect, Carl Smyth, to view the area and provide an opinion. The architect said that the floor could be raised easily without much added expense, there would not be a 'closed-in' feeling, and the area would be much safer for people to move about safely and would provide accessibility for people in wheelchairs.

The Board also asked Wendy Dionne, who a few years back, along with her partner, Len Legere, gave a gift to the Fellowship of redecorating the walls in the service area, to provide an opinion. We hoped she would make suggestions for ways of maintaining the aesthetics of the room while allowing people to enter and leave the area safely. She suggested that removing the current railings and raising the floor to be even with the hallway and piano area would eliminate the feeling of exclusion that two levels of flooring creates, would help focus the eyes on the front of the room when entering (rather than breaking the gaze upon entering because of the need to stop and look down at the floor while stepping into the service area), and would create a larger space to circulate freely and safely. She agreed with the architect that there would be no feeling of being 'closed-in' if the floor was raised.


We invite you to attend a short meeting on November 7th, directly after the Sunday service so that the Board may take your comments into consideration in making a decision about the flooring in the Sunday service area.

Joan Brewer
President of the Board

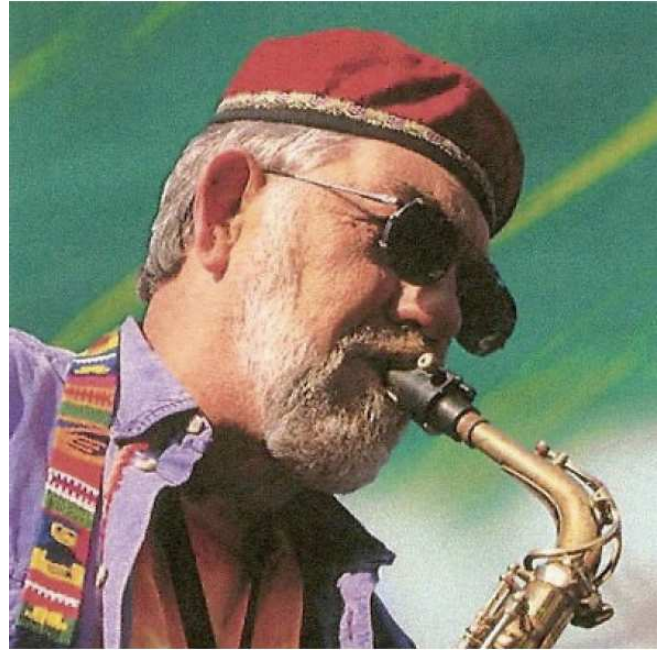


Women's Pot Luck

The monthly women's pot luck dinner for November will be held November 26th. We gather at 6 PM and eat at 6:30 PM. Further information about the location and discussion topic will be made available in the Sunday bulletin and sent around the email circuit. For more information contact Joan Brewer 455-5169 or jebrewer@rogers.com



In Memoriam, Hans Martini



Martini, Hans Guenther - May 2, 1937 - October 13, 2010.

With great sadness, the family announces the death of Hans Martini. Beloved husband of Janet Crawford, father of Calvin (Denise McGrath), Scott (Edward Logie) and Beth Cohen (Randy Edmunds), stepfather of Jennifer (Peter Simpson) and Andrew Campbell. Adored grandfather to Sarah Martini, Abbygail and Emily McGrath, Jamie Edmunds, Aidan Logie, and Dominique Albert Campbell. Fondly remembered by his brother George (Turid), sister Marie, sister-in-law Pam and best friend Jon Oliver. Predeceased by parents George and Maria Martini, and brother, Walter.

Born in Hamilton, Hans was a long-time Fredericton resident, devoted father, accomplished musician, and well-loved music teacher and mentor. He studied saxophone at the Berklee School of Music in Boston and joined the Royal Canadian Air Force Band in 1962. In 1970, he relocated to Oromocto's RCR band where he played lead alto saxophone for 21 years.

Hans was a fixture of the New Brunswick jazz scene, regularly playing festivals, teaching, mentoring, and repairing instruments. His larger-than-life personality left an impression on everyone he met. Given Hans' motto, "Live music is best," the family was very grateful for the donations made to music education programs.

A memorial gathering was held at McAdam's Funeral Home on Saturday, October 16. Words and music of remembrance helped to celebrate Hans' life.



Keeping in the Loop

A note from the editor I recently received notice that some people had not received the recent notices that I had been sending out. I send out requests for Touchstone articles and advisories of the availability of the newsletter on the web site once a month from September through June. If you stop seeing these notes and especially if you've recently changed your email address, you should probably send me a note to update the mailing list that I keep. Unfortunately, George and I do not keep a common mailing list data base and sometimes we forget to inform each other when updates come through so it's probably best to copy us both as well as the membership committee on any such updates.



Second Lay Chaplain Search

The Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton Requires the services of a second Lay Chaplain

To: The Congregation of the Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton

From: Anne Leslie, *Chair, Lay Chaplaincy Committee*

Lay Chaplains prepare for and officiate at rites of passage (weddings, funerals, memorial services and child dedications) for members of the congregation of the Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton and the general public of the Greater Fredericton area. Lay Chaplains follow the guidelines issued by the Canadian Unitarian Council (CUC) and policies established by the UFF Board of Directors and Lay Chaplaincy Committee. These rites of passage mark some of the most important events in people's lives and the Lay Chaplain's role constitutes a significant outreach to the public by the Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton. The Fellowship currently wishes to have a second Lay Chaplain. The Lay Chaplain is not an employee of the Fellowship, but acts as an agent and it is expected that he or she will charge fees for services performed.

If you are interested in being considered for this position, you are asked to read the information below about the Lay Chaplaincy Appointment Search, and to read the Lay Chaplain's Manual which is available on-line at <http://www.cuc.ca/ministry/LCCmanual.pdf> or a hard copy can be provided to you by the chair of the committee.

The UFF Lay Chaplaincy Committee will accept applications and a Selection Committee made up of two members of the LC Committee, two members of congregation at large and one member of the board will conduct interviews with selected applicants. The Lay Chaplaincy committee

will recommend a candidate for appointment to the board. Once approved by the board, the selected candidate will be affirmed by the congregation,

The Board of Directors will submit the name of the appointed individual to the Canadian Unitarian Council, which in turn, will register the individual with the Government of the Province of New Brunswick as a CUC officiant who is legally entitled to solemnize wedding ceremonies in New Brunswick.

The successful applicant will sign a contract with the Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton that outlines the roles and responsibilities of the Lay Chaplain, the Lay Chaplaincy Committee and the Congregation. Lay Chaplains are reconfirmed every year at the UFF annual general meeting or other duly constituted congregational meeting. Lay Chaplains may serve up to a maximum of six years.

To apply, please submit your resume and a letter outlining how your background and skills would qualify you for consideration for this position. Applications addressed to Anne Leslie may be left in the congregational office. Application deadline is January 30th 2011. Please feel free to call Anne Leslie if you have questions.

LAY CHAPLAIN Job Description The appointment of Lay Chaplains is governed by procedures directed by the Canadian Unitarian Council (CUC) office in Toronto and administered by the CUC Lay Chaplaincy Committee. Lay Chaplains, appointed or elected, are responsible to the Board of Directors and the Lay Chaplaincy Committee in their local congregation, and are registered with their local provincial government by the Canadian Unitarian Council (except for Quebec and Nova Scotia).

Purpose of the Position Lay Chaplains prepare for and officiate at Rites of Passage (weddings, services of union, funerals and memorial services, child dedication services) for the general public and in some instances, for members of the congregation, in keeping with the suggested guidelines issued by the CUC and established by the local Lay Chaplaincy Committee/Board of Directors.

Relationship to the Congregation

The lay chaplains' training and performance of services are under the supervision of the Lay Chaplaincy Committee, in consultation with the minister(s), if available, and other members, as appropriate, to maintain liaison and co-ordination of activities and events.

Qualifications Applicants for the position of Lay Chaplain should have the following minimum qualifications: 1. be a member in good standing in our Congregation; 2. be actively involved with the life of our congregation, prior to acceptance; 3. articulate why he/she wishes to become a Lay Chaplain; 4. be able to work flexible hours, which tend to be mainly evenings and weekends.

Qualities Because the Rites of Passage mark some of the most important events in people's lives, the lay chaplaincy

program constitutes a significant outreach to the public. Therefore, a Lay Chaplain must have:

1. a working knowledge and commitment to the Principles of Unitarianism and the ability to articulate that philosophy;
2. maturity and the ability to cope in crisis situations;
3. the ability to communicate with people in a spirit of empathy, helpfulness and concern;
4. an effective public speaking voice and manner;
5. the ability to present and conduct in a manner which favourably represents their congregation and the Denomination;
6. the ability to conduct Rites of Passage with sensitivity to, and acceptance of varied cultural, spiritual and religious traditions and be willing to adhere to the CUC standards of practice for Lay Chaplains;
7. have a sense of personal responsibility and commitment to the lay chaplaincy program and the capacity to work both independently and as a team member.

Initial and Enrichment Training

A Lay Chaplain is expected to: 1. attend and successfully complete a CUC sponsored training workshop prior to acceptance, if possible, 2. as a lay chaplain-in-training, be mentored by experienced Lay Chaplains and, if available, a minister; 3. attend regular enrichment training sessions within reasonable limits of time and cost, e.g. Lay Chaplains training at the CUC Annual Convention Meeting 4. attend and participate in local Chaplaincy Committee meetings and activities; 5. have an evaluation on a yearly basis by the local Chaplaincy Committee/ Board of Trustees.



Tribute to Hans Martini

I am deeply saddened to hear of the loss of Hans Martini. I knew Hans through his brilliant saxophone instruction of me, through the latter half of my journey through grade school.

Sadly, in my teenage years I was never a stellar student: I was lazy, didn't practice, and was undoubtedly a frustration at times for Hans. Yet Hans was always patient with me, going far out of his way to find and adapt music I liked which at the time was music from the likes of theme songs from Star Wars and Star Trek for me to play. Being an arrogant teenager, I didn't realize how much effort he was putting into these things for me, but now, in retrospect, I see what a caring and fantastic teacher Hans was; I regret that I didn't more firmly grasp the opportunities he kept putting in front of me.

Notwithstanding my lack of practicing, Hans and I had some good times playing the saxophone. To this day my favourite music is the old classic jazz songs Hans introduced to me. I still hum Moon River to myself sometime one of the many songs Hans introduced me to and taught me to play and one to this day I always remember the song

first and foremost as being sung not with words, but with the beautiful, unique sound of Hans Martini playing the tune on his sax.

Above all, when I think back on the year I interacted with Hans, what comes foremost to my mind is not a musician and teacher though, of course, he excelled at both but a friend. Looking back I realize how much I enjoyed going to my weekly saxophone lessons not just for the music, but for the friendship: Hans was one of the few people who I, with the arrogance and isolation that comes with being a teenager, considered a friend. I hope Hans knew that; I wish I'd told him myself before it was too late.

Everyone who knew Hans has lost someone special. I feel honoured to have had my life touched by a small part of his, and shall never forget him.

Jason Rhineland

Editor's note: Jason is Betty Ponder's grandson and was a student of Hans Martini



Anniversary

Editor's note: this article was submitted originally for the October newsletter and accidentally slipped into the wrong folder. The editor apologizes and has changed the tense in a number of places to reflect events that are now past.

The Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton was 50 years old in October 2010. Much has happened over the years and we have much to celebrate. The Gala weekend to mark this anniversary took place September 11-12, 2010.

The earliest members were asked to send us some reminiscences of the beginnings of our Fellowship and a chapbook, with pictures, was prepared to mark the occasion. *Editor's note: Copies are still available in the Library at the Fellowship and a small donation may be made should you wish to take one.*

The Gala dinner took place September 11 in Ste. Anne's Court, a retirement community in Fredericton. Entertainment and guest speakers rounded out the evening. Charles Eddis, Minister Emeritus of the Unitarian Church of Montreal, presented a talk at the Anniversary Service on Sunday September 12.

It is our intention to continue marking this special year with more presentations from guest ministers who have served us in the past. In fact, we started the year off a bit early when Fred Cappuccino and Stephen Atkinson delighted us with their inspiring sermons in August. We are talking with other ministers for special presentations throughout the year.

The comments we have heard from those that responded to our invitations all indicate that the 50 years of service

by the presence of a Unitarian Fellowship in Fredericton have been a blessing, in many different ways, to those who passed through our doors and lingered with us for a while. May these blessings continue to inspire us for another half century.

John van Abbema



Lay Chaplain Training at Bouctouche



Sanctuary: the Auberge Le Vieux Presbytère de Bouctouche

I participated along with 12 other lay chaplains in the Deepening, Maturing, Growing retreat for experienced Lay Chaplains at Auberge Inn, in Bouctouche.

One highlight was watching the sun rise over Bouctouche Bay from my room at the inn...and then watching it set, highlighting the dunes as it made its way beneath the horizon..pure magic.

John was with me the first two days. We walked the dunes, using the boardwalk, experiencing the crashing waves, that sparkled with sunlight as they rolled on their way.

On Friday evening, 13 Lay Chaplains gathered in the meeting room, after a wonderful supper prepared by Ann and her assistant Cathy.

Winnie the Pooh played an important part in one workshop as we thought of the characteristics of each of the personalities..Pooh, Piglet, Rabbit, Eeyore, Owl etc.. Discussing our answers to questions like Who are you? Who are you asked to be, when and why?

Workshops morning noon and night took place for the next two days. We talked about the reasons for doing the work of the Lay Chaplain. We talked about the objects we had brought that express where we are now as a Lay Chaplain. Several brought their stoles.

We talked about what qualities in us prepare us for playing the role of Lay Chaplain, and we talked about qualities that are lacking and that we wish to develop more. We talked about what the role has done to our spirit? What have you learned about the sacred , the holy in your life as you exercise this role? And finally, a good workshop followed around....“Now what..... when you set aside the role?” Setting aside the stole may be easier than setting aside the role. What will you replace this work with as a focus for your passion and energy in your congregation? Two of the participants were in their sixth and final year of service and were planning their exit from the role of Lay Chaplain.....with difficulty. We had a good discussion over this matter. We know that the opportunity for serving as lay chaplain for your church, must be shared and passed on to others.

Saturday evening found us sitting in the “Bistro”, everyone with their 'Singing the Living Tradition' in hand, as we made our way through this beloved book and sang all the songs familiar to us. This impromptu session was a wonderful happening for a Saturday evening, and served to tighten the bond between us.

I felt very privileged to have been able to take part in this workshop with other Lay Chaplains. Thank you to this congregation for giving me the go ahead to attend...

Sharon van Abbema



November Holy Days

A sampling of Holy Days and Holidays in November. Most of these have been described in more detail in previous issues of Touchstone.

To our Pagan friends, the celebration of Samhain in the

Northern hemisphere completes on November 1 while the Southern hemisphere celebrates Beltane.

Our Christian friends observe All Saint's Day on the 1st, All Soul's Day on the 2nd. Día de los Muertos is celebrated on the 2nd in Mexico and many Latin American countries. Christ the King day is observed on the 21st. The first Sunday of Advent is the 28th and the 30th is Saint Andrew's Day. Orthodox Christians will begin the Nativity Fast on November 12 which continues through December 24.

November 5th this year is the festival of Diwali, celebrated by Hindu, Jain and Sikh.

The Baha'i observe the birth of Baha'u'llah on the 12th and the Day of Covenant on the 26th.

Followers of the Prophet Muhammed, peace be upon him, observe the Eid al Adha on the 16th and Waqf al Arafah on the 15th.

The entire month of November has been declared Native American Heritage Month in the U.S. to pay tribute to the rich ancestry and traditions of Native Americans.



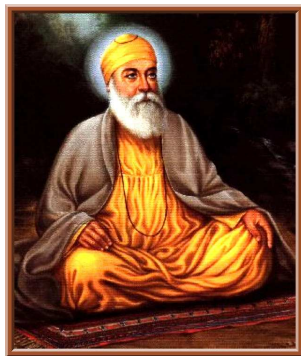
Guru Nanak Gurpurab

The birthday of the first Sikh Guru, Guru Nanak, and one of the most sacred festivals in Sikhism. The word Jayanti means birthday in Hindi. Sikh Guru's birthdays are known as Gurpurab.

The festivities in the Sikh religion revolve around the anniversaries of the 10 Sikh Gurus. These Gurus were responsible for shaping the beliefs of the Sikhs. Their birthdays, known as Gurpurabs, are occasions for celebration and prayer among the Sikhs.

Guru Nanak Dev Ji (the First Guru, the founder of Sikhism) was born on 14 April 1469 in Rai-Bhoi-di Talwandi in the present Shekhupura District of Pakistan, now Nankana Sahib. The birthday of Guru Nanak Sahib falls on Kartik Poornima, i.e., the day of the full moon in the month of Kartik. In the Gregorian Calendar, the birthday of Guru Nanak usually falls in the month of November, but its date varies from year to year, based on the traditional dates of the Indian calendar.

This year, Guru Nanak's birthday anniversary falls on November 21.



Unitarians and Fredericton's First Pride Parade

Editor's note: this article was submitted originally for the October newsletter and accidentally slipped into the wrong folder. The editor apologizes.

Fredericton, New Brunswick, August 8, 2010: Unitarians march in Fredericton's first Pride Parade

Carrying a sign, Unitarians for Justice, over twenty congregants from the Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton, marched in Fredericton's first ever Pride Parade. In celebrating our GLBTQI communities, Unitarians comprised the largest entry in the parade. From babies to the elderly, bedecked in t-shirts, ribbons, and general giddiness, we affirmed the Unitarian principles of justice for all. Allison Brewer (former NDP leader of NB; keynote speaker with her son Will Brewer at the CUC-ACM in Ottawa 2008; and member of TUFF) was parade marshal. In a small but satisfying way, the pride parade allowed Fredericton Unitarians to stand up for something and to know ourselves as people concerned with social justice.



Los Angeles Times Item

Editor's note: I came across this and tried to find the original article on the Los Angeles Times web site but could not. I did find so many articles citing it, however, that I am assuming its veracity and present it for your consideration.

On a related note, Sheila Moore suggests that you try the "U.S. Religious Knowledge Survey" as a fun exercise. It can be googled.

If you have religious questions, odds are you shouldn't ask a religious friend: it's usually better to ask an atheist or agnostic, according to a survey by the Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life. Many religious people not only don't understand a lot of general religious tenets, they often don't understand their own religion very well, either. For example, most Protestants (53 percent) don't know Martin Luther was behind the Protestant Reformation, and nearly half of Catholics (45 percent) don't fully understand the meaning of Communion. The most-knowledgeable religious people, following atheists and agnostics, were Jews and Mormons. Why would atheists and agnostics know so much about religion? "These are people who thought a lot about religion," said Alan Cooperman, Pew's associate director for research. They studied religion before rejecting it, while the religious tend to just assume "truth" without any study or knowledge about their own faith. (Los Angeles Times)



Roots Hold Me Close, Wings Set Me Free

Why the Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton is important to me

I started coming to the church for several reasons. First, from the moment I walked into the sanctuary I felt the magic of the space. Second, for at least an hour a week it gave me the needed opportunity for contemplation that was otherwise lost in the hectic schedule of life. And third, I appreciated the church's emphasis on tolerance and recognition, and that questions have more than one answer. As time went on, I began to value the community of people who, however much I may disagree with them, appreciate these same values.

Why I contribute to the Fellowship

The Fellowship is us. The Fellowship is not a service provided by others for our convenience. It is up to all of us who value the Fellowship to pay the freight. If I value what the Fellowship provides for me, my friends here, and my community, then I feel it is appropriate to put in my fair share of effort and money to keep the Fellowship going. Please give what you can.

Some notes on the contribution process

- 1) Contributions can be made weekly in the collection plate, or can be mailed to the church, or mailed or given to the treasurer allison calvern. Cheques should be made out to the "Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton".
- 2) We ask that at the beginning of the church fiscal you pledge to contribute a specified amount over the year. Payments may be stretched over the year as you see fit. If you are willing to pledge, please return the pledge form to me, Ed Leslie, Chair of the Finance Committee. Some are reluctant to commit in advance to donating a total, preferring a more laissez-faire pay-as-you-go approach. While the Fellowship certainly will accept donations however they come, it helps in the budget process if we have pledge amounts at the start of the fiscal year.
- 3) People who are new to the church may see that many put only a dollar or two in the plate, and may think that this is the level of funding typically provided and a level of funding sufficient to support the church. It's not! In many cases, these small plate contributions are token amounts from donors to supplement their primary, much larger pledge that may be paid in one or several cheques over the course of the year.
- 4) Contributions are tax deductible. The treasurer keeps records of all donations and provides an annual summary in February, in time for tax preparation. Donations are identified by cheques or envelopes with your name on it.

- 5) A 2011-12 budget estimate and CUC What's My Share Giving Guidelines are on the reverse page.

The end of the canvass campaign will be marked by a gala dinner set for 6:30pm (with allegedly fabulous prizes) on Friday, November 26th.

"From you I receive, to you I give,
Together we share, and from this we live."

Ed Leslie
Chair, Finance Committee

The final budget for 2011-12 will be established at a congregational meeting in January 2011. The following is an estimate based on previous years.

Administration	\$1,500
Sunday Services	\$8,000
Children's Program	\$4,500
Buildings & Grounds	\$15,000
Denominational Dues	\$6,500
HST	\$1,500
Public Awareness	\$3,500
Other Committees	\$2,500
Total Expenses	\$43,000

CUC What's My Share Giving Guidelines		
Annual Gross Income	% of Income	Weekly Pledge
Less than \$10,000	1%	\$2
\$10,000 > \$20,000	2%	\$6
\$20,000 > \$30,000	2.5%	\$12
\$30,000 > \$40,000	3%	\$15
\$40,000 > \$50,000	3.5%	\$19
\$50,000 > \$60,000	4%	\$27
Over \$60,000	4.5%	\$35



Connected by a Covenant

What is the Canadian Unitarian Council? Some people might respond that it is the staff, others might say it is the Board, and a few might shrug and say they don't know or maybe mention Toronto. The truth is better and more complicated than any of those responses. The staff (and yes, they are centred in Toronto, but not by any means exclusively located there) and the Board are part of the CUC, but they are not the CUC. We have no Ecclesiastic office in our tradition. Instead, we have fashioned a collective organization, the CUC, to help us maintain our connections to one another. So, in fact, the CUC is a collective of congregations.

So, Halifax, and Hamilton, Kingston and Kelowna and all the other congregations are the CUC (our owners). The

staff and the Board don't get to tell our congregations what to do, or what to believe or how to organize. In fact our congregations, through their delegates at the Annual Meeting have the ability to provide direction to the Council. or what to believe or how to organize. In fact our congregations, through their delegates at the Annual Meeting have the ability to provide direction to the Council.

So, what does it mean to be part of this organization? How do we get things done, when we have approximately 50 member congregations and when they in turn have approximately 5,000 members? And what does it mean when we say, "We, the member congregations of the Canadian Unitarian Council, covenant to affirm and promote..."

The member congregations of the Council have, over the years, determined how the CUC will operate. They've approved by-laws, accepted reports and budgets, and made resolutions that direct our collective social responsibility positions. At this point in time we have a Mission and Vision,² a basic structure, a staffing model and some collective agreement about how we'll function. When staff develop a program to support congregations, when a Social Responsibility Monitoring Group makes a statement, and when the Board determines policy they are operating within the parameters we've established for our collective management. But when each congregation calls a Minister, hires a choir director, or buys or sells a building, they do so as autonomous, member-directed entities.

Sometimes people, because of the traditions they come from, assume that a visit from a CUC board member or staff person is like a visit from a Bishop. They assume the relationship between the CUC and their congregation is hierarchical. Not so! A congregation's ongoing relationship with the CUC requires only that they remember their responsibility to the other members and the covenant we have with one another. In practical terms that might mean they work to maintain programs and worship services that encourage deep thinking about how we can promote an understanding of "the inherent worth and dignity of every person." It might mean we work to ensure our congregations are open to (and encouraging of) different, 'free and responsible searches for truth and meaning.' It might mean we collectively consider how to shape a world of "peace, liberty and justice for all."

The fact that we've jointly affirmed a Vision and Mission statement which is summarized as "Growing Vital Religious Communities in Canada" means we have a shared commitment and responsibility to offer programs that help our congregations become vital. The CUC staff responds to expressed needs from congregations by providing support and training for leadership and program development, social responsibility, Lay Chaplaincy and other areas of congregational life all to the end of helping congregations become vital centres of liberal religion.

So, we're all in this together. There is no CUC that is

"over there." There is no CUC that isn't all of us (and each of us in relationship with all the rest of us). The covenant we share to promote our mutual goals and our mutual values is what makes us a community. We belong to one another.

In faith and with affection,
Linda Thomson
Director of Congregational Services



Mental Health Services for Youth

Most serious mental illnesses start in adolescence disabling 18% of Canadians aged 15-24. Suicide is the second highest cause of death among Canadian youth. The best prevention of extreme outcomes is early detection and effective treatment. Currently, some New Brunswick youth suffering from complex mental disorders are being sent out of province at a cost of \$500,000 - \$700,000 each per year.

Bernard Richard, Ombudsman and Child and Youth Advocate, investigated some of these cases and made numerous recommendations to the government, one of which is a provincial Centre of Excellence for youth with complex needs. The liberal government appointed him as chair of a task force currently conducting consultations to determine specifics for the Centre.

A grassroots advocacy group has sprung up to support this initiative called D.O.T.S. (Delivery of Treatment Services) takes its name from Mr. Richard's report "Connecting the Dots" (see website below).

A public meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 23, 7pm, MacLaggan Hall, UNB. Bernard Richard will deliver an educational briefing on the situation. Attendees will write letters to the newly appointed Ministers of key departments; a petition will be circulated.

We hope to have at least 300 people at this event. Please come and bring your friends.

For information: dotsforyouth@gmail.com
www.gnb.ca/ombudsman
or Mary Louise Luck, 450-7021



Letter to PM from CUC

Dear Prime Minister,

It's not too late for the Government of Canada to respond to Omar Khadr. On behalf of the Canadian Unitarian Council, I urge the Government of Canada to respond to the decision of the Supreme Court of Canada in the Canada (Prime Minister) v. Khadr, 2010 SCC 3, [2010] S.C.R. 441 case. I also express concern that Canada ac-

tively participated in a process contrary to Canadian international human rights obligations and acquiesced to Mr. Khadr's ongoing detention thereby depriving him of his right to liberty and security of the person guaranteed by s. 7 of the Charter, contrary to the principles of fundamental justice.

We recognize that the Supreme Court of Canada left the decision to repatriate Mr. Khadr in the hands of the Government of Canada to be "Consistent with the separation of powers and the well-grounded resistance of courts to intervene in matters of foreign relations." The judgement also stated that "the proper remedy regarding the breach of his rights under Canada's Charter of Rights and Freedoms is to grant Mr. Khadr a declaration that his Charter rights have been infringed." Its decision leaves the government "a measure of discretion in deciding how best to respond." That discretion includes the right of the government to seek repatriation of Mr. Khadr.

Our Unitarian Universalist principles call for us to uphold the inherent worth and dignity of every person and to work for justice, equity and compassion in human re-

lations. Omar Khadr is a Canadian Citizen and, at the time of his detention, a child soldier. He is the only child in modern times ever to be charged with murder for his participation in a battle. Regardless of his guilt or innocence, he is worthy of the rights that are guaranteed to all Canadians and deserves to be tried in Canadian courts in an open and transparent manner.

We urge you to:

- (1) respond to the Court's decision by granting "a declaration that his Charter rights have been infringed", and
- (2) capture the government's power defined in this judgement's discussion of the separation of the power of the Courts and the Government by repatriating Mr. Khadr no matter whether he is found guilty or not guilty.

Yours sincerely,



John Hopewell
President, Canadian Unitarian Council

This space wants your material!