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Upcoming Services

The Theme for March is Journey (Our Stories). It is also the month of International Womens Day and St. Patrick's Day so there will be days to celebrate, stories to share and journeys to hear about. Join us at 10:30 on Sunday mornings, and stay for coffee and conversation immediately following the service.

March 3 CUUWA: Journey. Jo-Anne Elder-Gomes. The Canadian Unitarian and Universalist Women's Association (CUUWA) invites all congregations across Canada to celebrate International Women's Day on one of the Sundays close to March 8, IWD, each year. It is our goal to have IWD services in all congregations. This year, the CUUWA prepared a package of worship and study materials on the theme of Journey. On March 3, we invite you to share journeys that have been meaningful in your life.

March 10 *Matters of life and death: An overview of three health research studies.* Our Guest Speaker, Dr. Jennifer Dobbelsteyn, sent this note:

In this overview, I present new knowledge gleaned from my research on both aging and hospice care. Additionally, I will discuss an upcoming study on supporting independent living for First Nation Elders.

March 17 *St. Patrick's Day.* Join Tony Fitzgerald as we delve into the fray between the conversions of Ireland

from Pagan to Catholic. What happened in Ireland and how has it shaped the holiday we celebrate today.

March 24 Our Guest, Ramona Nicholas, will speak on the Sisson Brook Grandmothers who are trying to save the land and water from the Sisson Brook Mine project. Ramona will tell us who the Grandmothers are, their goals and their story. She is one of them. Joan McFarland will lead the service.

March 31 Maple Syrup Communion. Carlos and Jo-Anne Elder-Gomes. A service for all ages. An annual tradition since 2017, this service is an opportunity to share a special kind of communion which celebrates a local food and ancestral traditions. The First Nations peoples in this part of the world have long recognized that the right balance of heat and cold at a single time of the year leads to the natural bounty of sap, a life-giving source of minerals and sustenance after a long winter of scarcity. We will talk about how sugaring relates to our inner journey and sacred times and places.



Adult Programs

March 7, 2 p.m. Special Small Group Ministry session for International Women's Day. We will be reading some poems and exploring our personal and spiritual journeys in a perspective of gender and identity. All welcome, but please contact Jo-Anne at eldergomes@yahoo.com so I can plan snacks and handouts. Session will be held upstairs in the Board room.

March 21, 7 p.m. Third Thursday. "Feminists: What Are We Thinking?" We will be discussing a video entitled "Feminists: What Were They Thinking?" Please watch this video on Netflix before the discussion. If you are able, find and bring a photograph of yourself before you a) discovered feminism or b) began a journey that has been significant to you in your life.

March 23, 1 to 3:30 p.m. Board and Committee meeting. All are welcome to attend this workshop, with a special invitation to all who are involved in programs and activities of the Fellowship or who would like to

become more involved. We will be talking about major projects we would like to undertake if the money were available. Come and share your hopes, dreams, visions of the Fellowship in the years to come. Wacky ideas will be honoured, as will things we tried before and didn't work. :-)

April 7, evening. Reverend Linda Thomson, CUC Congregational Development Staff for our region, will be making a brief visit to Fredericton. We are planning a social with discussion on Sunday evening, April 7. More details will be shared as they become available. Please save the date!



Joys and Concerns

from your Caring Circle

Milo Gomes-Jones is Carlos's and Jo-Anne's youngest grandchild, born to Gabriel E-G and his fiancée Ryley Vose-Jones. Milo was born on January 31, exactly 4 weeks after his "cousin-twin" Onyx. Jo-Anne is currently visiting the family in Winnipeg.

Sincere sympathy to Carol Ann and Tom Hanley on the passing of Carol Ann's mother, Jean Lane, on Feb. 21. She was 96.

Bunty Albert passed away Feb 20. Bunty became a member of our congregation when her congregation in PEI closed a couple of years ago. Bunty was a dedicated volunteer who was very involved with the CUC. It was always delightful to see her when she was able to come to one of our services. She will be missed.

Joan "Bunty" Ellie Albert (McCabe), 70, died peacefully on the 20th of February 2019 in Charlottetown, with her two children at her side. Bunty was born on the 20th of April 1948 in Edmundston, New Brunswick to Rupert and Doris "Dodie" McCabe. After graduating as Valedictorian of Cormier High School, Bunty studied across Canada earning her Bachelor's and Master's Degrees through Mount Allison and Simon Fraser Universities, and the University of Ottawa, respectively. Bunty moved to Prince Edward Island in 1975, raising her two children and completing a fulfilling career at Veterans Affairs Canada. Bunty was a strong and independent woman. She was deeply engaged in the Unitarian community. In her spare time, she loved to travel, and play with her grandchildren.



She was an active member of the Island community, involved in everything from the PEI Photo Club, to the O Beautiful Gaia Singers. Bunty was often involved behind the scenes in multiple community projects, among which included producing several plays with A Community Theatre (ACT). Bunty and her family wanted to thank all friends, family and health care professionals who assisted with her illness over the past two years. A special thanks to the incredible women who helped in her final weeks; you demonstrated great kindness and dedication during this difficult time. Bunty is survived by her children, Danielle Albert (Adam Braha) and Michael Albert (Amy), and her six grandchildren, Charlotte, Callum and Nathaniel Braha, and Annabelle, Henry and Simon Albert. She is also survived by her partner, Frank Gaudet, his children, Mary, Caitlin and Christina, and his grandchildren, Will, Luke and Ellie. A celebration of life will be held on Prince Edward Island in July. Information on location and timing to follow. In lieu of flowers, please make a contribution to any of the following four Canadian causes, all of which are tackling issues that were dear to Bunty: Canadian Unitarian Council (www.cuc.ca), Canadian Cancer Society (www.cancer.ca), Autism Canada (www.autismcanada.org), and/or Alzheimer Society Canada (www.alzheimer.ca). www.belvederefh.com



Tea, Laughter and Conversation

(TLC)

Join us for a fun and sharing time on Wednesday March 13th at 1:30 at the Fellowship. Our topic this month is:

"Do you believe in coincidence or synchronicity?"

Bring your stories and experiences – or just come and listen and have a cup of tea with us.

Call Sheila for more info. 450-9021



The Canadian Unitarian * Universalist Women's Association

Jo-Anne Elder-Gomes
Chair of the CUUWA

The Canadian Unitarian Universalist Women's Association (CUUWA) is a UU women's organization with specific goals: to raise awareness about women's history, rituals, and perspectives, through training, communication, celebration and many resources. CUUWA is an associate member of the Canadian Unitarian Council.

The CUUWA was founded in May 2011 and became an affiliate of the Canadian Unitarian Council in September

2011. Membership in the CUUWA costs \$25 per year, with reduced prices for longer periods and family/household members). Recently, its focus has been on preparing worship and study materials for International Women's Day (March 8) each year, and an Annual Tea and AGM which is held in conjunction with the CUC National Conference every two years and online in the intervening year. The package is free and publicly available at:

<https://cuuwa.org/2019/01/23/announcing-the-2019-international-womens-day-service-package/>

We will be hosting a Tea in Fredericton on June 8, 2019. For more information or to join the CUUWA, contact Jo-Anne.

Several CUUWA activities are planned for March 2019; feminist U*Us are invited to take part.

March 3, 2019, 10:30 am. at the Fellowship. CUUWA's IWD service on "Journey." (Details under Sunday Services)

From March 3 to March 10, special postings on IWD and Journey will be posted on our Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/CANUUWA/> Share your experiences in response to a series of reflection questions.

March 7, 2:00 pm. at the Fellowship. A small group session on our personal and spiritual journeys. (Details under Adult Programs)

March 10, 8:00 pm. Atlantic (watch from home). First meeting of the monthly online Canadian U*U Feminist Book Club at <https://zoom.us/j/328662153>. At our first meeting, we will be discussing two books by indigenous women of two different generations: read one of them or both, if you have time, or feel free to join and listen! Books: Lee Maracle, *I Am Woman*, Press Gang, 1988; Terese Marie Mailhot, *Heart Berries: A Memoir*, Counterpoint, 2018. Open to all.

March 21, 2019, 7:00 pm. at the Fellowship. "Feminists: What Are We Thinking?" A discussion of a video on second wave feminists and our own discovery of feminism. (Details under Adult programs)

March 25, 2019, 7:30 pm. Atlantic (watch from home). CUUWA discussion on Privilege and Gender, led by Catherine Strickland, NVC practitioner. Watch Catherine's sermon on the topic here before attending:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gn0H48XIW6c&t=772>

Open to members and friends of the CUUWA:

<https://zoom.us/j/373322268>.

The CUUWA is governed by a national Council currently composed of the following regional representatives: Atlantic (shared): Jo-Anne Elder-Gomes (Chair) and Anneke Elder-Gomes; BC: Lillie Lentz; Prairies: Christine Mishra; Ontario: Kathy Sage; At large: Margaret Linton (Treasurer/ Membership), as well as Ministerial Liaisons

Reverend Linda Goonewardene and Reverend Christopher Wulff.



Women's Pot Luck

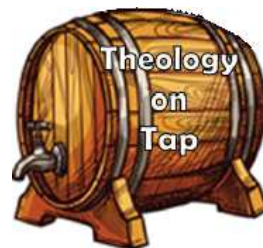
The next Unitarian Fellowship women's pot luck will be held Friday, March 22nd, 2019. Donna Young will host the gathering at her home, 808 McLeod Ave. Topic for discussion will be sent out closer to the date. We gather at 6 PM and eat at 6:30 PM. For further information, contact Joan Brewer at jebrewer@rogers.com



Theology on Tap

Rev. Deborah Ambridge Fisher, Forest Hills United Church, invites those who are interested (people of all beliefs), to meet at Dolan's Pub the third Monday of each month to discuss issues that are of interest to everyone.

She says "we may not agree on everything but we will find we have a lot in common. We come together with the goal of listening to learn from each other rather than listening to reply."



Chat about theology and enjoy some drinks and good conversation at Dolan's Pub. We meet the third Monday of every month from 8 to 10 pm. Our next gathering is Monday, March 18th.



The Story of Unitarianism

This month's theme, "Our Stories", leads me to consider the story of Unitarianism. The key element in the theology of UUism in North America appears to be change. But in another respect we have remained true to the thought of Michael Servetus and Faustus Socinus. These men were known for their doctrine of the unity of God. Fast forward to American Unitarian minister Earl Morse Wilbur who put it all together by stating that Unitarianism is:

"a movement fundamentally characterized ...by its steadfast and increasing devotion to these three leading principles: first, complete mental freedom in religion rather than bondage to creeds or confessions; second, the unrestricted use of reason in religion, rather than reliance upon external authority or past tradition; third, generous tolerance of differing religious views and usages rather than insistence upon uniformity in doctrine, worship or polity. Freedom,

reason and tolerance: it is these conditions above all others that this movement has from the beginning increasingly sought to promote.”

Sheila Moore



CUC Liaison Report

The National Social Justice team of the Canadian Unitarian Council (CUC) has launched a new campaign called *The Ripple Effect*.

The aim of the two-year campaign is to address issues impacting water, explore our interconnections with water and our responsibility to it.

The campaign will be looking at our “values, perspectives and behaviours” as they relate to water said Erin Horvath, CUC leader of the Social Justice team.

You can watch a kick-off video that explains more about the campaign. The video explains that water was chosen as the focus because it is integral to so many other environmental issues such as fracking and plastics pollution.

The plan is for the CUC and local UU groups to form and work with water activists, other faith groups and their communities. And the hope is the work will have a “ripple effect” on many other environmental concerns.

A resource site will tell you how to get involved.

For more information check out:

cuc.ca/social-justice/the-ripple-effect.

There is also a Facebook page.

New Legislation on Political Activities

There is an update on changes to the Income Tax Act, part of the federal budget given Royal Assent Dec. 13, 2018. These changes pave the way for charities, including UU congregations, to carry on non-partisan political activities, referred to as public policy work, without fear of losing their charitable status. The Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) has released new draft guidelines explaining how the new legislation will be applied. Check out CUC eNews for more information.

The latest eNews also contains an update and more information on the CUC’s Truth, Healing and Reconciliation initiative.

And doesn’t everybody need a good laugh now and again? Have you heard of the Unitarian Universalist Hysterical Society? It started in Saskatoon by Unitarian Liz James in 2015. It’s kind of like insiders jokes for members of the UU movement.

You can find the group on Facebook under *Unitarian Universalist Hysterical Society Coffee Hour*.

Finally a webinar of note for those interested in congre-

gational growth is coming up Sat. Mar. 30 from 1:30 to 4:30 pm Atlantic time. This is Part One of a two-part series exploring ways to create meaningful worship that engages minds, hearts and spirits. Presenter is Rev. Dr. Barbara Wells ten Hove. Check the CUC.ca website for information on how to register.

Glenna Hanley
CUC Liaison



Becoming

by Michelle Obama

She writes of her life growing up in a declining neighbourhood on the southside of Chicago in the upper floor of her grandparent’s small house with a disabled father working as a labourer and of her, school work, Then she went to Princeton University for a law degree and through to the end of her husband’s second term as President of the United States. This is an encouraging book. It shows how attitude and education, with family encouragement and support from friends can help someone to continue to become a more fulfilled and useful member of America’s community, working to make things better for family and others. In her relationship to Barack it shows how love can continue and grow in the relationship of two gifted optimists, in spite of the demands and stresses of political life. There is still hope for the American dream.

It is a lively book. Inevitably there are tales of love as her relationship with Barack develops from her mentoring him as a law student in the firm she worked for, to their marriage, parenthood and politics. Barack has no example of fatherhood from his absent father, taking three months off and away to write a book, but he learns. Politics is even more complex with Michelle facing vicious written and verbal attacks and learning the art of speaking and finding how to achieve her aims for society too. The constant security and protocol complications provide some extra entertainment after Barack is president. You may remember Michelle absentmindedly putting her arms on Queen Elisabeth’s shoulder as a sign of affection!

It is also an intriguing book. For example it shows the difficulty separating church from state. Michelle rarely mentions religion, though she was a good friend of Jesse Jackson’s daughter and she and Barack went to church before his presidency. Then the minister of that church was attacked by the anti-Obamas for allegedly anti-white comments. They had to get a minister to visit them for prayers and only went to church occasionally after that, though the daughters went to a Quaker school.

The role of the president’s wife is also examined. She has to get the “right” make-up and dress to even step into the White House garden and learn to cope with some vicious negativity. She finds a way of promoting some of her own aims: encouraging and making accessible fitness and good

food, helping the families of armed forces and helping girls achieve their aims in America and abroad through making use of education. She learns how to show her honesty in supporting her husband and encouraging others in her speeches, choosing the audiences that can learn from this.

Through all this she is able to find and keep good friends and advisers.

In conclusion, do read this one! You can borrow my copy or get one through the Fredericton library.

Sheila Andrew

2019 PHOTO A DAY #UULent



Join a Unitarian Universalist practice of Lent! Each day, Unitarian Universalists and our friends and family will intentionally reflect on a daily word, carry our awareness throughout the day, and capture an image that represents the word for us. We'll share our reflections and images on social media with the hashtag #UULent. On Sundays, we challenge each other to reflect on the daily word and also embody and enact it in our lives. (Created by Mr. Barb Greve; designed by Alex Kapitan.)

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
MARCH						
			6 dedication	7 vulnerability	8 intention	9 dreams
10 bravery	11 struggle	12 resilience	13 mistakes	14 acceptance	15 partnership	16 courage
17 heal	18 search	19 hunger	20 curiosity	21 wonder	22 possibility	23 focus
24 hospitality	25 play	26 friendship	27 safety	28 dust	29 understanding	30 blessing
31 mercy						
APRIL						
	1 gratitude	2 wisdom	3 sacred	4 suffering	5 forgiveness	6 transcend
7 justice	8 grace	9 build	10 trust	11 recovery	12 art	13 love
14 sanctuary	15 travel	16 truth	17 ally	18 pain	19 loneliness	20 faith
16 rejoice						

NURTURE Your Spirit. Help HEAL Our World.