



The Newsletter of the Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton

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Sunday Service 10:30 a.m. Web Site: <http://www.uff.ca> Email: [office@uff.ca](mailto:office@uff.ca)

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## Contents for May 2022

Up-coming Sunday Services .....	1
Report on the Board Meeting of April 24, 2022 .....	2
Joys and Concerns .....	2
An update on the Retrofit and Renovations .....	2
CUC AGM and National Sunday Service .....	3
CUC Events May 1 to June 16 2022 .....	3
Pours les francophonie .....	4
Two Special Days in May .....	4
Congratulations Dr. Elizabeth Epperly .....	4
Help From Others .....	5



## Up-coming Sunday Services

### Sunday Services 10:30 am via zoom

While the pandemic continues its own progress and the government has decided to discontinue regulations to attempt to address it, the Fellowship has decided to have our own plan for living with CoViD. These plans were adopted March 14, 2022 and are subject to change without notice as things develop.

**Objective:** To have indoor and outdoor Sunday services while keeping in mind that many of our Fellowship members are seniors, people who are immunocompromised and/or people too young to be given the vaccine against COVID and therefore at a higher risk of contacting the COVID virus.

Given that our service space does not allow social distancing, we ask that people attending in-person services do the following:

**VACCINATION** : for the time being we ask that people attending in-person services be double vaccinated and have a booster shot. Service can be accessed through ZOOM for those unable to attend in-person.

**MASKS:** are optional, but we advise wearing them while moving about in the building.

**SINGING:** is permitted

**COVID SYMPTOMS:** If you have any potential covid symptoms, please attend service from your home by ZOOM.

The Sunday Services Committee is grateful for the wonderful guest speakers from both inside and outside our Fellowship during this difficult time. Watch for the ZOOM information each week which will be sent to the congregational email list. Contact the chair of the membership committee, [Membership@UFF.ca](mailto:Membership@UFF.ca), to be added to the mailing list.

### May 1<sup>st</sup> *Preaching Peace... In the Name of Humanity*

Robin Zucker, UU minister at Flagstaff, Arizona, considers the Ukrainian war and questions how it relates to our 6<sup>th</sup> principle. . .”The goal of world community, with peace, liberty and justice for all.” Sermon read by Ken.

*Service Leader:* Ken Moore

*Tech:* Myron Hedderson

### May 8<sup>th</sup> *Sooner or Later We All Quote Our Mothers*

Janet, Heather and others will reflect on various aspects of Motherhood.

*Tech:* Myron Hedderson

### May 15<sup>th</sup> *Lay Chaplaincy Sunday*

The CUC recommends that at least one Sunday a year be dedicated to the Lay Chaplains, what they do and what they may not do. This will be that Sunday. Decima was the successful candidate in our search for a new Lay Chaplain earlier in the year, has completed the CUC course in designing and leading rites of passage and has been licensed with the province to officiate marriages in New Brunswick. Jenn is our continuing Lay Chaplain and Deby will retire at the end of the Summer. All three will talk about the Lay Chaplaincy from their respective perspectives. *Service Leader:* Tony Fitzgerald

*Tech:* Myron Hedderson

### May 22<sup>nd</sup> *Growing Points* – A brief history of Canadian Unitarian Universalism presented at the CUC Annual Meeting May, 2011 where attendees celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the founding of the CUC.

Members of the Sunday Service Committee will take parts in reading this interesting program.

### May 29<sup>th</sup> *“Broken Hallelujah” – The Theology of Leonard Cohen*

Cohen has been called a philosopher, a dark poet and a troubadour of truth for generations. Leonard Cohen, who died in 2016 at age 82, expressed a progressive theology with both Jewish and Christian dimensions in his sharply perceptive and heartfelt songs and poems about religion, politics, isolation, relationships, and commu-

nity. In this service of music, spoken word pieces, silence, and reflection, we will explore the brokenness and the hope in Cohen's enduring Hallelujahs.

We will watch the YouTube service given by Rev. Robin Landerman Zucker of the UU church of Flagstaff, Arizona.



## Report on the Board Meeting of April 24, 2022

The meeting began with six of the seven Board members in attendance and regrets from Tracy Gleim.

Opening words of inspiration were supplied by Joan Brewer. Each Board member then checked in with news of goings on in their lives.

The meeting was called to order at 12:45. The agenda was approved with two additions. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

The Building and Grounds Chair, Ken Moore, will be invited to the next meeting, for a show and tell of the drainage situation at 874 York Street.

Myron Hedderson has prepared a job description for the Sunday Services Committee. The SSC hopes to employ a UNB Co-op student to aid in running our hybrid Sunday Services.

As members of the Nominating Committee, Decima Mitchell and Janet Crawford will bring a list of candidates for Board and Chair positions to the UFF AGM in June.

Heather Lunergan and Amanda Duffie recommended that the UFF purchase Quick Books accounting software through TechSoup Canada, a non-profit which secures favorable rates to charities in need of software. The Board approved this purchase.

Robin Stanley and Heather were approved as UFF delegates to the CUC AGM, which takes place virtually on May 14.

A long-standing member who has contributed mightily to the life of the congregation will be recognized at our AGM in June.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45.

Submitted by Decima Mitchell,  
President, UFF Board



## Joys and Concerns

Myron Hedderson and partner Jenn are excited to have purchased Sheila and Tim Andrew's home on Montgomery St. Sheila & Tim will be moving to an apartment on Dundonald St.

Two of Sheila and Tim Andrew's daughters recently ran in the Boston Marathon and did very well.

We will be missing Margaret Fitzgerald's wonderful music at the Fellowship while she awaits surgery.

Michelle Swan has returned after a wonderful trip to Ireland with friends.

Jane Loughborough leaves this month for her annual stay at her family cottage at Georgian Bay. Jane plans to return in September.

Doreen and Roy Boorman are staying at St. Anne's Court for awhile.

The Elder-Gomes family has recovered from experiencing Covid.

Congratulations to Frank Rudolf and his partners who have opened Pakistan's first bloodless dialysis facility in Lahore.

The Caring Circle is available to help in any way we can with a phone call or virtual visit or delivery of any items. Please get in touch with Janet Crawford [janetcra@nbn.net.nb.ca](mailto:janetcra@nbn.net.nb.ca) or 454-0441 or Robin Stanley [stanleyr@nb.sympatico.ca](mailto:stanleyr@nb.sympatico.ca) or 506 650-2670. If you have any postings for Joys and Concerns in Touchstone, send to [stanleyr@nb.sympatico.ca](mailto:stanleyr@nb.sympatico.ca). Other committee members are Nancy Beltrandi, Deby Nash, Myron Hederson, Decima Mitchell. The caring circle has a Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/247416469728195>

Robin Stanley



## An update on the Retrofit and Renovations at 874 York

At our Annual Meeting last June, the congregation agreed to a total expenditure of \$21,000 to bring our building up to modern expectations for insulation, air loss, and heating. A busy 9 months followed and now, we have a brighter, more air efficient, and more secure Fellowship House.

You may have noticed the new windows and doors, and the insulating shades in the front window. And the heat pump! It is performing well and saving us some money on

heat, while making our space cozy and less drafty. What is less obvious are the insulation in the attic, the blocked fireplaces to hold heat in, new programmable thermostats, closing off 2 unused rooms upstairs, and various improvements in the basement, including insulation and mould removal.

The Board and the Buildings and Grounds committee kept careful records of expenses. As well, they found various ways to recoup some of our expenses. In the fall, the West Fund gave us \$1500, and, after quite a bit of paperwork and determination on the part of a few people, NB Power has sent us a rebate of \$1877 through the Canadian Retrofit Program.

This means our total 'out of pocket' cost was reimbursed by \$3,277. Our retrofit and renovations are complete for now, for a final total cost to the Fellowship of \$17,623. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this refurbishment.

Heather Lunergan, Treasurer



## CUC AGM and National Sunday Service

The Canadian Unitarian Council (CUC) will hold its annual general meeting on Saturday, May 14, beginning at 2 pm (Atlantic).

The meeting is on line only again this year and all members can attend this event as observers. Only our appointed delegates can vote however. This year the board has appointed Treasurer Heather Lunergan and Robin Stanley, co-chair of our Social Responsibility Committee as our two delegates.

Even though there is no registration fee everyone needs to register. To do that go to the CUC website, at [cuc.ca](http://cuc.ca) and scroll down the front page to where you will see a logo and the AGM link. That link will take you to where you can register. When you are registered you will receive an email with the Zoom link to the meeting.

The AGM is held to elect a new board for the coming year, approve budgets and vote on priorities for the year and on resolutions.

On Sunday, following the Saturday AGM there will be another national Sunday service beginning at 2 pm.

The creators of the service, Unitarian Universalists Ministers of Canada (UUMOC), CUC staff and volunteers are promising a very unique service. To get there go to [cuc.ca](http://cuc.ca) web site, click on Events Calendar, and then on May 15.

On a personal note this annual meeting marks the end of my three-year term as a member of the CUC board, representing the eastern region. I have learned a great

deal not only about the CUC but also about congregations across Canada. I hope to continue to support the CUC in the future although in a less direct way.

Submitted by Glenna Hanley  
CUC Board Member for the Eastern Region  
CUC liaison for UFF



## CUC Events May 1 to June 16 2022

This is a recap of some events coming up over the next few weeks. Please note that you cannot use the blue links out of Touchstone. You will need to go to "Events" on the [cuc.ca](http://cuc.ca) web site.

### Connect and Deepen

Sundays, May 8 and May 22 and June 16, 2022 5:00 pm AT (1.5 hours)

Connect and Deepen is a regular small group ministry. We gather, virtually, for meaningful discussion, connection and reflection. If you are not connected to a local congregation, or just want the opportunity to explore spiritual topics within a guided small group, we encourage you to join us.

More information and registration is available [here](#). Saturday, May 28, 2022 1:00 pm AT (90 minutes)

### CanUdle & Chorus Inclusivity Conversations

Sunday, May 1 and Wednesday, May 11, 2022 5:00 pm AT (1 hour)

In anticipation of the upcoming Chorus and CanUdle conferences (Friday, May 20 to Monday May 23, 2022), the Youth and Young Adult (YaYA) community are hosting public drop-in inclusivity conversations. During these one-hour drop-in conversations, we will discuss how to make our YaYA conferences as inclusive and accessible as possible, and actively contribute to planning and organizing this year's events, creating a more transparent, horizontal, and inclusive conference-planning process. Open to both youth and young adults, those interested are welcome to drop-in at any time for as long as they wish, and are free to contribute ideas or to sit back and listen. The space will be co-created by whoever is present!

There will be at least one conversation planned post-conference for a debrief which we will announce when we schedule it. These conversations will be hosted by Ilara, they/them; Kathleen/Kat, she/her, and the Chorus coordinator, Micaela, she/her.

You will also see an announcement soon about another set of YaYA inclusivity conversations, however, those will be for the community in general, whereas these three conversations are specifically about the Chorus and CanUdle only.

Registration: Use the link below to register for each meeting (register once per meeting). Then you will be sent an email with connection details.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/91667400000?pwd=ZUJhbnNlbnR1b3R1c2VudD09>

## Pours les francophonie

Dear Members and Friends, If you know anyone who is French speaking please let them know about this on line community for Francophone Unitarian Universalists or others who speak French. They will need to go to the CUC web site [cuc.ca/events](http://cuc.ca/events) to find the link shown below. They cannot access it from Touchstone.

### Célébrons ensemble

Le mercredi 18 mai 2022 15h00 AT (75 minutes)

Le mercredi 15 juin 2022 21h00 HA (75 minutes)

Célébrons ensemble est une célébration UU mensuelle en français pour les jeunes adultes (18 à 35 ans) canadiennes UU. Célébrons ensemble est semblable à Gathered Here. Il est important de noter que c'est un espace français inclusif. Ça veut dire que la célébration se déroule en français (et c'est important de respecter cela), mais que nous accueillons tout le monde, à tous les niveaux de français! Pour plus d'information:

<https://cuc.ca/events/celebrons-ensemble-avril-2022/1650484800/1650489300/>

## Two Special Days in May

Mother's Day is a holiday honouring motherhood that is observed in different forms throughout the world. In the United States and Canada Mother's Day will be observed on May 8th this year. The Mother's Day that we celebrate was created by American Anna Jarvis in 1908. Mother's Day traditionally involves presenting mothers with flowers, cards and other gifts. While Jarvis had initially worked with the floral industry to help raise Mother's Day's profile, by 1920 she had become disgusted with how the holiday had been commercialized. She outwardly denounced the transformation and urged people to stop buying Mother's Day flowers, cards and candies.

Celebration of mothers and motherhood can be traced back to the ancient Greeks and Romans, who held festivals in honour of the mother goddesses Rhea and Cybele, but the clearest modern precedent for Mother's Day is the early Christian festival known as "Mothering Sunday".

At times, Mother's Day has also been a date for launching

political or feminist causes. In 1968 Coretta Scott King, wife of Martin Luther King Jr., used Mother's Day to host a march in support of underprivileged women and children. In the 1970's women's groups also used the holiday as a time to highlight the need for equal rights and access to childcare.

### Happy Mother's Day to All Mothers

For Many Canadians, the Victoria Day holiday weekend is the time to start thinking about summer. And it's a Monday that many of us don't have to go to work or to school. But why do we celebrate the birthday of Queen Victoria, who died over 120 years ago?

Victoria was queen when Canada became its own country in 1867, and she was the one who chose Ottawa as our capital. After she died in 1901, the Canadian government declared that May 24 would be a holiday in her honour.

In 1957, Victoria Day was named the official birthday in Canada of Queen Elizabeth II. (In Great Britain her birthday, which is actually April 21, is celebrated in June) And Victoria Day is officially held on the Monday right before May 25th.

### Let's Celebrate Victoria Day!

Sheila Moore

## Congratulations

### Dr. Elizabeth Epperly

Victorian scholar, L.M. Montgomery specialist, author, curator and university administrator Dr. Elizabeth Rollins Epperly was born in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia.

Her parents were passionate readers and read aloud to their children for years. A fascination with Montgomery's writing led her to Prince Edward Island, where she became in 1969 the first student to register at the newly amalgamated University of Prince Edward Island (UPEI).

She graduated with degrees in English literature — a bachelor of arts at UPEI; master of arts at Dalhousie University; and a doctoral degree at University of London, England — specializing in 19th-century British novels and poetry. She taught at Memorial University (where she served as head of English) and UPEI where she founded the L.M. Montgomery Institute, served as UPEI's first woman president from 1995–98, became a professor *emerita* of English



and was awarded an honorary doctorate.

She published two books on Anthony Trollope before daring, in 1992, to publish *The Fragrance of Sweet-Grass*, the first full-length critical study of all of Montgomery's novels. Since then, in addition to dozens of essays and book chapters, she has published books on Montgomery's photography, scrapbooks, letters and Canadian context.

Dr. Epperly has served as curator for real-time and virtual Montgomery exhibitions and has pursued Montgomery research in Sweden, Japan, Spain, Scotland and China, as well as in the U.S. and Canada.

The biennial international L. M. Montgomery Institute conferences, which she began in 1994, are credited with anchoring Montgomery studies.

Since retiring from UPEI in 2006, she has published more Montgomery books and essays, and mentored students and administrators.

For her commitment to higher education, not only as a pioneering Victorian scholar and authority on L.M. Montgomery, but as a woman leader in academic administration, Elizabeth Rollins Epperly will be awarded the degree of doctor of laws, *honoris causa*.

Robin Stanley



## Help From Others

Distracted by getting organised for leaving the house I have not had time to read and review a book this month, so here's a chance to share some wisdom learnt from other people. Back in my girls' high school, our Jewish science teacher who had escaped from Germany during World War II told us: "When you are told something is good, consider this, good for whom and good for how long?" Lady Mary Ogilvie, Principal of St. Anne's College Oxford came to speak at our 1956 graduation. "Girls" she said "life is changing for women. There will be much for you to do in work, research, community and world development as well as family life. There will be times when you have to let something go. Don't let it be the people." The Dalai Lama came to speak at St. Thomas University and a student asked him "How do I find the belief that is right for me?" The Dalai Lama answered "Start with the beliefs you were brought up with and seek for the right beliefs for yourself." Who would have thought he was so close to being a Unitarian!

Sheila Andrew

This space wants your material!  
Please send articles to [touchstone@uff.ca](mailto:touchstone@uff.ca)