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Sunday Service 11 a.m.

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Sunday Services

- Oct 2** Najat Abdou-McFarland *My trip to Ethiopia: Memories and Moments* Najat will be describing her trip to Addis Ababa, the capital of Ethiopia. Pictures will also be shown. The audience may ask questions after her presentation.
- Oct 9** Judi Daye *Judging Judi* Judi will be presenting on her recently published book.
- Oct 16** *Eastern Regional Fall Gathering* For this Sunday only, we will meet at the Irving Theatre of the Hugh John Flemming Forestry Centre at 1350 Regent St. There will be no service at 874 York Street as it will be in use for a parallel Youth Con.
- Oct 23** Joost Von Weiler *On the fringe of religion* Clear pixel for spacing I have been exposed to many religions and found that basically, people are all the same. But I had some strange experiences as well. To deal with people on a daily basis, we have to learn to respect and to understand.
- Oct 30** Darin Quinn, MSc. *Effective Treatment for Aphasia* Darin is a speech-language pathologist.



Women's Pot Luck

The next monthly women's pot luck dinner will be held October 28th. We gather at 6 PM and eat at 6:30 PM. Janet Crawford will host the evening at her home, 155 Aberdeen St. Discussion topic: bring something from your closet - clothing, shoe, scarf, purse, etc. - that you have kept forever or that has special meaning and tell the story behind it. For more information contact Joan Brewer at 455-5169 or jebrewer@rogers.co



From your President - Hello all!

This is my first report as President of the Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton Board of Directors. I'd hoped to provide one for the August Touchstone, but I was too busy traveling and working to get it done. One of the things I'd like to do is keep you informed about what your Board is up to these days.

I chaired my first meeting on August 9th, and a steep learning curve it was, too. The Board team is supportive and exceedingly helpful: **Joan Brewer** as Past President; **John van Abbema** as Vice President - *Programs and Ministry*; **Tom Hanley** as Vice President - *Finance and Facilities*; **Gail Moore** as Vice President and **Betty Lou Daye** as Associate Vice President - *Communications and Outreach*; and **allison calvern** as Secretary-Treasurer, who adds a touch of humour to our minutes (and, as she says, with loads of help from George DeMille). **George DeMille** is keeping great track of our finances and keeping us up-to-date at each meeting.

The meetings get underway with a lighting of the chalice with a few relevant words, similar to our Sunday Services. We agree on an agenda and then have a check-in to see where everyone is 'at' before launching into business.

At the August meeting we discussed things that had come up at the last Board Meeting (in June) and the Annual General Meeting (also in June), including the parking plan - signs and procedures for renters; the process for Primary Social Focus, which we deferred as Agenda item for future Board meeting as Tom Hanley wasn't able to be there; the

submission of new Lay Chaplain nominee (Tony Fitzgerald) to the Canadian Unitarian Council (CUC); and a request to the West Bequest Fund.

The Fellowship is fortunate indeed to have people who generously give of their time. We value the contribution of the Committee leaders, such as Sylvia Hale, who is setting up the Sunday Services; Rhonda Connell and Jeff Frooman for the Religious Education (RE) program for children; Anne Leslie on Caring with Haifa Miller, Sharon van Abbema and Margaret Fitzgerald; Sheila Moore with Gail Moore on Lay Chaplaincy; Tom Hanley on Social Responsibility; Ken Moore on Buildings and Grounds; and Glenna Hanley on Membership and Public Awareness. We are also grateful to all those who contribute to make these Committees work, and to those without whom we would have no music, yard sales, craft fairs and conferences.

We also have Sharon von Abbema as our Lay Chaplain, and Tony Fitzgerald who's in training. Tony continues to ensure you're kept up-to-date through the Touchstone as our Newsletter/Webmaster – contributions welcome!

The Hospitality Committee is still looking for someone to help lead it, as Betty Lou has 'paid her dues' for two years. So, if you are good at organizing and can help the Hospitality Committee, it would be great as the tea, coffee and calories are integral to our Sundays! On another note, if you would like to lead a Sunday Service, please contact Sylvia Hale (506 457-1146).

What else do we talk about? Well, Food Bank donations, for example, and important things like ensuring our building and grounds are safe and well maintained. Ken Moore offered a number of suggestions which the Board discussed, including:

- improving the signage for the Fellowship (no-one notices the current sign by the road)
- waterproofing the chimney and repairing the water damaged ceiling in the children's room
- exploring ways to reduce congestion between the kitchen and the vestibule
- keeping our trees healthy and trimmed.

We also discussed about planting memorial trees on the Fellowship grounds, and the Board really liked the idea. We'll develop a protocol for this.

If you need access to the Fellowship building, the door code has been changed, so you can contact **Ken Moore** (506 363-2480) for the code. The Membership Directory is being updated, so if you want to make changes, please let **Glenna Hanley** know (506 472-8431). George DeMille can send you a copy if you don't have one.

We'd like to have a wheelchair on hand for the Fellowship, so if anyone knows of one that could be donated, would you please tell someone on the Board.

And last, but certainly not least, is all the preparation for the upcoming CUC Eastern Region Fall Gathering to be held at the Hugh John Flemming Forestry Complex (across from Regent Mall) on the weekend of October 14-16. The theme is 'LeaderFULL Congregations'. Tony Fitzgerald and his committee are to be commended for all their hard work on this endeavour. To register, go to <http://erg2011.eventbrite.com> or contact Tony.

If you have anything that you'd like your Board of Directors to discuss, or have any suggestions for us to consider, please don't hesitate to bring it to the attention of one of the Board members.

I look forward to serving you. Together with the support and dedication of members and friends we'll help our Fellowship prosper.

Sheila Thompson
President, Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton

Remember the past, dream about tomorrow, but live for today. (anonymous)



Eastern Regional Fall Gathering

Fri., Sat., & Sun., October 14-16
Hugh John Flemming Forestry Centre
1350 Regent Street, right here in Fredericton

Unitarians are small in number over a large geography, and CUC conferences give us the chance to see and feel our UU community in a more focused and a more forgiving light. Even joy sneaks in, inadvertently, and with particularly memorable results. These conferences of both work and play (mostly play), reveal the enthusiasm and insightful projects undertaken by our sister fellowships and churches, which can be inspiring. We gather to workshop our leadership and following skills, and to gain perspective on our philosophies and souls.



Meeting in Fredericton for the first time in ages, local Unitarians and Unitarian-leaning friends should seriously consider taking advantage of what this conference offers—A chance to experience more fully who we are as Unitarian Universalists within this large country of ours. Join the many people coming from Ottawa, Kingston, Montréal, North Hatley, Saint John, Halifax, PEI, Bouctouche, and maybe even from Newfoundland and Maine. Register easily online: <http://erg2011.eventbrite.com/>, or call me 459-1436. (Now would be a good time. You will get your very own, personalized courier bag, and you'll have a lot of fun.)

We gather on Friday evening, holding our banners, greeting one another, remembering how good it feels to both

connect and reconnect. On Saturday we workshop and deepen the connections; in the evening, we play in the Cabaret, hosted by Keith Baxter of North Hatley. We kick up our heels; share our poetry, doggerel, and/or lyrics; or simply listen, while sipping a comforting drink. Early on Sunday morning, we are invited to join Carlos Gomes who will lead us in a drumming meditation, letting our hearts be soothed.

If participating in the whole weekend is not possible for your busy schedule, at the very least, make time to attend the Sunday service—11 am in the auditorium at the Forestry Centre—with Rev. Raymond Drennan delivering the sermon, and our collected choir providing music, music, music. Being present in a large room full of UUs, all singing, all feeling something bigger than what we normally know, can touch the spirit very deeply, can teach us something essential about ourselves.

Thank you for your attention. Take care.

allison calvern

p.s. Registering now would help the welcome desk in preparing the nametags, but we will happily take even very late registrations; we do not want you to miss this rarely given chance.



Samhain Ritual

It's that time of year again... the third harvest, when the veil between the worlds is at it's thinnest. Join us as we honour our ancestors, mourn those who have died in the past year, journey to the land of the dead, and celebrate the births of babies born in the past year.

While the ritual will be in the style of the Reclaiming tradition, everyone is welcome regardless of tradition or experience.

Please bring something comfortable to sit on, food to share during the feast afterwards, and if able a donation for the Unitarian Fellowship as a thank you for allowing us to use their space. Saturday, Oct 29, from 7pm to 10pm, at 874 York St.



CUSJ – Introduction

Dear Congregational Newsletter Editors

CUSJ would be very appreciative if you would occasionally consider a column from us in your congregation's newsletters. Following is an example for your next available issue.

Canadian Unitarians For Social Justice

On the search for justice, equity, and compassion in human

relations and democracy in our institutions. Witnesses for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part. Honouring the worth and dignity of every person and the free and responsible search for truth and meaning. Dreaming of a world at peace, where everyone has enough.

How do we work with these ideals?

CUSJ is joining with other groups who also care about the threats we face today and who share our vision of a more equal and democratic society. To see what we are doing, please visit www.cusj.org. There you will see the issues we have been researching, the positions we have taken, and links to other groups with whom we are cooperating. We have shared your stories about working for affordable housing. There are issue discussion pages for your congregation with many sources of information. There are links to action campaigns.

Right now The Elizabeth Fry Society and the John Howard Society are leading a campaign against the new Omnibus Crime Bill. The Canadian Council of Refugees and the Canadian Civil Liberties Association are leading a campaign against the Refugee Bill. It allows our government to imprison people for a year or more without legal representation or any of the human rights we expect people to have in Canada. Greenpeace and the Council of Canadians are leading a campaign against the expansion of the tar sands.

Join us. Join our discussion list and get to know us. Read and share our newsletter. Check out our T-shirts. Start a chapter. Use our website to stimulate discussion about social action in your congregation. I look forward to hearing your views. It is always a challenge to find the truth, and a right way to engage all these important issues. Write me at president@cusj.org.

In Faith,

Rev. Frances Deverell



Fundy Wave Online

The October newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist congregation of Saint John, NB – is now available on line on your computer at <http://www.uucsj.org/OctWave2.pdf>. Enjoy!



CUSJ

Dear Unitarians,

I invite you to take some time to go to the CUSJ website and catch up on what has been going on in the social

action field. We have pictures of the latest action protest on the Tar Sands. Our Energy pages have been updated. Our Criminal Justice page is updated to include our letter on the Omnibus Crime bill and a link to the Elizabeth Fry postcard campaign. We will be joining the Canadian Civil Liberties Association and the Canadian Council for Refugees to try to influence the new Bill C-4 - the Refugee Bill. Thanks to all of you for everything that you do to make the world a better place.

In Faith,
Rev. Frances Deverell
President,
Canadian Unitarians For Social Justice
president@cusj.org



Theatre Project

Editor's note: received via CUSJ

My name is Mutya, I am Headlines Theatres Publicity and Outreach Assistant.



I am wondering if the Canadian Unitarians for Social Justice has an event listings page that we could include the event about the upcoming, community-created, interactive physical theatre "Us and them" that will perform in Vancouver this Fall. Our aim is to tap into a diverse array of individuals and communities that are interested in supporting or getting involved with the project.

At the final performance there will be a live, interactive, global webcast where anyone from anywhere in the world can take part in this community dialogue around issues of why and how humanity keeps creating 'the other' - and how we can work towards building bridges between us and other people.

Please do let me know if there is any way that CUSJ can get involved in supporting this remarkable process and project.

See info below my signature - and please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have! (I also attached an image if that is something you would use)

Thank you and looking forward to hearing from you,

Mutya :)

Ps. I am aware that you are in Victoria. There is going to be a Live. Interactive. Global Webcast of the show that will be happening at the final evening performance on Nov 12th, 2012 at 8pm.

Headlines Theatre explores the mystery of

"Us and Them"

Grassroots. Interactive. Physical Theatre.

Vancouver's award-winning Headlines Theatre presents their latest interactive production, "Us and Them" - a fun, moving, and gutsy exploration of how we understand ourselves and how we create divisions between "ourselves and others". Happening at The Cultch from Oct. 21st to Nov. 12th, this performance crowns their 30th anniversary.

When: Oct 21 - Nov 12, 2011

Where: The Cultch, 1895 Venables St, Vancouver, BC.
(Wheelchair accessible venue)

Preview: Oct 20

All shows at 8pm.



Bel Canto Singers

Bel Canto Singers looking for new members:

The Fredericton Bel Canto Singers is an auditioned chamber choir made up of experienced, highly dedicated singers who perform two to three concerts per year. We are currently looking for new members. To schedule an audition or to find out more about the choir, please send an e-mail to frederictonbelcantosingers@gmail.com or visit us online at <http://belcantosingers.blogspot.com/>.

Thanking you in advance,
Brad Horncastle



Church of the Larger Fellowship

The Church of the Larger Fellowship, a unique UU congregation without walls, is now offering NEW clay chalice pendants, hand-crafted in a variety of colors. Explore the CLF Shop (at <http://clfuu.net/shop/>). All proceeds from CLF Shop sales sustain the many UU ministries of the Church of the Larger Fellowship.



Rainbows!

The Crafter's Circle of the Lakehead Unitarian Fellowship is offering hand-knit rainbow scarves for sale. The profits from the first 100 sold will go toward the purchase of Singing the Journey hymnals for the Fellowship. Any profits from sales above and beyond that will be donated to gender issue groups and activities in the Thunder Bay area.

For now, we only have adult length scarves, but we are open to knitting hats and child-length scarves if there is a demand. Please check out our pictures and progress

at <http://unitarianrainbows.blogspot.com/> where you will also find an order form to send to us at unitarianrainbows@gmail.com.

Prices for the scarves are very affordable \$15 (local pick-up) and \$20 (mailed within Canada only), so please support our efforts and let's get some new music!

This is a largely young-adult endeavour, so your support would be most appreciated! If you have any questions or would like further information, please contact the group through the links provided.



WomynSpirit Festival

20 years ago the WomynSpirit Festival grew out of the Unitarian Cakes for the Queen of Heaven course. It is now one of the oldest annual Pagan festivals in Canada, and this year it will be celebrated October 28-30, from 5pm Friday to 3pm Sunday, at the Hockley Valley Ecology Retreat Centre (Orangeville, Ontario).

Our theme for 2011: Reflections of the Goddess. Join us this Samhain as we celebrate the richness and diversity of Feminist Neopagan culture, while acknowledging, respecting and welcoming all women's spirituality. There will be rituals, workshops, drumming, dancing and great vegetarian food. Women of all ages and all backgrounds are welcome.

Samhain (pronounced sah-wen) is the time after harvest when things have died or are in a deep trance state; the time to remember ancestors and elders who have passed on. We honour the elders still with us and reflect on our own crone aspects and our mortality.

Each year wonderful activities are planned for girls aged 4 and older. Teenagers may choose to participate in or

help with the children's programming, or join the adult activities.

The WomynSpirit Festival is a women-only, alcohol, chemical and fragrance-free event, organized and run by a non-profit collective of volunteers.

Information and registration forms:

416-481-7634 or 416-516-8280

pele.windsong@gmail.com

<http://sites.google.com/site/womynspirit/Home>

A limited number of subsidies are available.



Seasons Greetings

To our Jewish friends, *G'mar chatimah tovah*. Yom Kippur, the "Day of Atonement", begins at sunset on October 7 this year. It is the holiest and most solemn day in the year and completes the High Holy Days or "Days of Awe" which constitute the Jewish New Year.



Praying in the Synagogue
Maurycy Gottlieb

To our Hindu friends, may you have a sparkling Deepavali and may the blessings of Goddess Laxmi, deity of love, wealth and fortune bestow you with opulence and prosperity. Diwali, the "festival of lights", is on October 26 this year.

To our pagan friends, a blessed Samhain. Samhain begins at sunset on the 31st and is the ancient Celtic New Year.

And for a myriad of minor festivals during the month in various traditions. May you enjoy the blessings and/or obligations of your faith in the company of friends and family.

This space wants your material!