



The Newsletter of the Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton

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

Sunday Service 11 a.m.

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

Email: [office@uff.ca](mailto:office@uff.ca)

## Contents for May 2012

Sunday Services .....	1
Women's Pot Luck .....	1
Part-Time Ministry .....	1
Brief memo from South Carolina .....	1
Rosemary Clews .....	2
Nominating Committee Report .....	2
Paul McConnell .....	3
Spring Fling .....	3
Unsung Hero Awards .....	3
A Teaching Day .....	4
Church of the Larger Fellowship .....	5



## Sunday Services

- May 6** Priscilla Geisterfer *Light in Dark Spaces: Voiceless and Nameless Women of Sacred Scriptures*
- May 13** Malcolm Miller *The Unitarian Messiah*
- May 20** Kevin Matthews (Conservation Council) *The Co-op Movement*
- May 27** TBA
- June 3** Tom Hanley *About Faith and Our Diversity of Beliefs*



## Women's Pot Luck

The next women's pot luck will be held Friday, May 25th. We gather at 6 pm and eat at 6:30 pm. Information about who will host and the discussion topic will be circulated before the date. For more information contact Joan Brewer at 455-5169 or [jebrewer@rogers.com](mailto:jebrewer@rogers.com)



## Part-Time Ministry

Report from ad-hoc committee (George, Joan, John, Sheila) exploring the possibility of part-time ministry:

During the month of April Sheila Moore organized and facilitated, along with Joan, 7 meetings with members

and friends of the Fellowship. A total of 43 people had an opportunity to share their ideas and feelings about the possibility of proceeding with the process of acquiring a part-time minister for the Fredericton Unitarian Fellowship. Many thanks to those people who hosted the gatherings in their homes. Everyone who attended a meeting was given a one page survey, prepared by Sheila, to complete and return to the committee. Those unable to attend a meeting were also provided with the survey. We expect to have one or two more meetings in order to hear from as many people as possible. Please contact one of the committee members if you wish to attend a meeting. During the month of May we will prepare a committee report that will be made available to members in time to be reviewed before the AGM June 24th. Thank you for the opportunity to work on this committee.



Nancy Beltrandi and Glenna Hanley with Nu to You table for 2012 Spring Fling.



## Brief memo from South Carolina

Finally, our time is up in the sunny south. John and Sharon van Abbema lift off May 9th at the crack of dawn, home in time for supper in Fredericton. We are finishing off with a bang. Michael our son in Vancouver, flew in with our grandson Jacob age 6, to join us for a week at the beach. Jacob is teaching us much. He knows about constellations, and shells and remote control cars. He is a

big hit with the villagers, as they engage him in conversation.

John will present Sunday morning at All Souls Waccamaw Unitarian Universalist Church and I will be his service associate. Next Sunday, our last one for this year in South Carolina, will have our friend Barry, a former Episcopal priest be the speaker with John leading and Sharon telling the children's story..The Giving Tree. SO we finish with a bang and will be more than pleased to return to Canada to be with all y'all, as is often said down here. Time to scurry away when remarks are reaching us that say...'we would like to clone you'. We have been welcome here with open arms and much warmth. Their hospitality though, when all is said and done, is no stronger than yours.

See you soon  
Sharon



## Dr. Rosemary Arrowsmith Clews

Rosemary passed away peacefully during the early morning hours of Wednesday April 18th, 2012 at her home in Fredericton.

Rosemary was born on May 23rd, 1944 in Weyburn, Saskatchewan where her mother Judith Cox had married a British airman Kenneth Cox stationed there during World War Two. Rosemary and Judith followed Kenneth back to York, England in 1946. They were later joined by Rosemary's maternal grandparents, Alfred and Rose Arrowsmith. Two sisters Caroline and Patricia were born in 1949 and 1953 respectively.

Alfred and Rose were tremendously important to Rosemary. They had come from England as pioneer settlers in Saskatchewan. They gave her tremendous pride in both her English and Canadian heritages. Alfred gave her a lifelong passion for learning and books. Rose gave her practical lessons in concern and support for others.

At the age of 11 Rosemary gained a scholarship for a private boarding school in the market town of Uttoxeter in the British Midlands. Following these studies Rosemary read Sociology at the University of Birmingham. She married the late Reginald Clews and began a career as a social worker. Despite the traditional gender roles of 1980's Britain, and an inhospitable environment for women in management, Rosemary moved into social work management. She had two children, Aaron (Taylor) in 1980 and Miriam (Taylor) in 1984. She also found time to collect not one but three master's degrees - in Deviance, Social



Work and Management. She always maintained links with Canada through her mother's sister Ruth Wilson-Bigg who lived in the Prairies of Saskatchewan and with whom she was extremely close.

In 1993, Rosemary fulfilled a lifelong dream when she returned to her native Saskatchewan with her two children and ageing mother. There she began a new career as a professor of social work at the University of Regina's Saskatoon campus. She began a distance PhD with Memorial University of St. John's, Newfoundland.

In 1996, she moved her family to Fredericton where she began teaching at St. Thomas University. She completed her PhD and became a full professor. She became Assistant Vice-President Research at St. Thomas University in 2002. In doing so she became the first woman in St. Thomas's history to have President in her work title. Her work in this position greatly increased the University's profile and reputation in regards to research. Rosemary was pivotal in helping the University obtain its first three Canada Research Chairs. In her own work as a researcher she made links with Universities around the world and published extensively.

Rosemary's formal career ended in 2009. Although the final chapter of her life, her retirement, was cut so unfairly short as with everything in her life it was lived to its fullest. Rosemary continued to pursue her passions for travel, reading and the arts. In 2011 she was tremendously proud when she and her Aunt Ruth traveled to Middlesbrough, England for the ceremonies for the centenary of the city's famous transporter bridge which had been built by her great-grandfather Joseph McLauchlan. She enjoyed visits to Budapest, Hungary, where her son Aaron lives. Rosemary belonged to numerous book groups, enjoyed attending the Fredericton Monday night film series and watching the Metropolitan Opera at the cinema in Fredericton.

Rosemary leaves behind a legacy in terms of her work. She will be deeply missed by her two children, her Aunt Ruth, as well as her many dear friends.

A memorial service was held on April 26 in the St. Thomas chapel. Commemorations can sent via email to [rememberingrosemary@gmail.com](mailto:rememberingrosemary@gmail.com). Donations are welcome in the form of Children's books to the Fredericton library or contributions to The Literacy coalition of New Brunswick ([www.nb.literacy.ca](http://www.nb.literacy.ca))



## Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee, appointed by the Board, has started their work of reviewing the positions to be filled for the coming year, and preparing the names of nominees to be presented at the June AGM. If you are interested in knowing more about what positions need to be filled,

and the responsibilities of Directors on the Board and chairs of various committee, please be in touch with one of the committee members. Many different hands make the work of the Fellowship an enjoyable and fulfilling task. Your committee members are Betty Lou Daye 357-8256, Glenna Hanley 472-8431, Joan Brewer 455-5169, and John van Abbema 454-1551.



## Paul G. McConnell 1925-2012

Mr. Paul McConnell passed away at the age of 87 at the Dr. Everett Chalmers Hospital on April 29, 2012, with his family by his side. He was born in Waterhole, Alberta where his family ran McConnell General Store.



He earned an Engineering degree at the University of Alberta in 1957. In his lifelong work with CGE, he spent at least one night in 55 different countries, as well as living in Pakistan, Venezuela, and, after retirement, the British Virgin Islands.

Paul fetched up in Fredericton in 2006 where he was very active at the Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton, and the Stepping Stone Senior Centre; his future wife Joan was on duty at the welcome desk when he came in to join up.

This kind, funny, gentle and intelligent man will be sorely missed by his wife Joan, step-daughters Paula and Ruth and their families, his children Richard (Cheryl), Kenneth, Patrick (Kathy) and Kathleen (Stephen), and grandchildren Caitlyn, Kiersten, Erin, Zane, Leila and Keira.

No visitation by request. There was a memorial service on Thursday, May 3 at 3:00 PM, at the Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton.

No flowers please. Donations to the Fredericton S.P.C.A. would be appreciated by the family.



## Spring Fling

The Spring Fling was once again a huge success, raising over \$2000 for the fellowship. It shows that a small committee can have effective results. Nancy Beltrandi did an excellent job of chairing the committee, securing the vendors, arranging them in a very pleasant order throughout the fellowship and ensuring many types of art and crafts were represented. The vendors did a superb job of bringing the building alive with beautiful works of art. Glenna Hanley ably handled the raffle of a Silverberg etching kindly

donated by Lorna Drew. The winner, Lisa Fullerton was thrilled and well knew the value of the piece. Glenna also coordinated the "Nu to you" room and helped with the advertising. Sheila Moore and Betty Lou Daye managed a warm and inviting kitchen. Warm soup was served on both days and was appreciated by all. Coffee, muffins and goodies were available all day on Friday and Saturday. Janet Crawford doing PR and Haifa Miller, advising and helping everyone rounded out this year's committee. Thank you to the many member of the fellowship who donated food, used goods, their time and energy, It was great to see the building come alive



## Unsung Hero Awards

For the first time ever, this spring the fellowship participated in the City of Fredericton's Unsung Hero Awards and our nominee, Margaret Fitzgerald, was chosen one of the 13 individual winners. There was also one group award.



A second member of our spiritual community, Myrna Gunter, was also a recipient, nominated by another organization.

The awards are given annually by the city to volunteers who enrich the community by their unselfish giving of time, energy and resources to make this a better place for others to live and enjoy recreational, cultural and leisure activities.

Recipients are nominated by various organizations and individuals. This was the 19th year the awards were given.

With a plethora of super volunteers to choose from our board settled on nominating one of our unselfish and giving volunteers, our talented pianist Margaret.

Margaret and Myrna, along with the other winners, accepted their awards at a ceremony at city hall on April 20, attended by Mayor Brad Woodside, city councillors and city administrators. President Sheila Thompson and Haifa Miller represented the fellowship at the ceremony and in support of Margaret.

They were surprised to see a second member of the fellowship was also among the winners.

Below is the profile we sent in nominating Margaret.

Margaret Fitzgerald is an accomplished pianist who has generously shared her talent

in many venues, to the delight and pleasure of audiences of all kinds.

Members of the Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton feel blessed to have had Margaret as pianist for Sunday morning services for more than 40 years. And often she is game, after the service, to play for impromptu sing-a longs and at other Unitarian events.

Margaret studied at the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto and her repertoire is wide-ranging, from Mozart and Bach, to 1940's swing, from gospel music to children's songs.

Most Mondays you can find Margaret at the Dr. Everett Chalmers Hospital. For at least a decade she has had a regular gig on 3 northeast (the rehabilitation unit) playing for patients, and often bringing along friends to lead in a sing-a long.

As an added bonus Margaret will often do a little music appreciation lesson, explaining who the composer is and some background on the music she is playing. The patients appreciate the lesson as well as the music.

One of Margaret's fellow volunteers, Sharon Van Abbema, recalls a morning when several staff members joined in and performed a chorus line as Margaret bounced out a danceable tune on the ivories.

Sharon said one 3 northeast patient told her that music Mondays with Margaret was the best thing that happened to her all week. "That about says it all," said Sharon.

Margaret has also been the Unitarians' pastoral care representative at the DECH for five years. She regularly checks with admissions to see if any church members have been admitted and if they would like her to pay them a visit.

As part of the fellowship caring committee she has driven and accompanied church members with cancer for numerous doctor and clinic appointments.

She has also shared her musical talents with residents of nursing homes and at the Stepping Stone Senior Centre. She has been both pianist and music arranger for numerous plays performed at Stepping Stone, the Unitarian Fellowship and other venues.

In another display of the range of her talents she has organized the lyrics and sheet music in different keys to aid accompanying musicians, guitarists and harmonica players.

Malcolm Miller, director of many of the plays, said; "The Stepping Stone Troubadours still speak of Margaret with tones of awe, not only for her brilliant knowledge of music theory, but also, and perhaps more importantly, for the love she exhibited in sharing that knowledge with her fellow human beings."

Margaret was one of the earliest members of the Fredericton branch of Amnesty International, a founding member of the Fredericton Raging Grannies, and active in many roles at the Unitarian Fellowship.

Background: Margaret grew up in Ontario and has lived in Fredericton for more than 40 years. Now retired, she is a mother of two sons, was a teacher, holds a masters degree in Library Science and worked in Counselling Services at UNB, in charge of the career library.

Thanks to several members of the fellowship who contributed to writing the submission.

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Myrna was nominated by another organization and below is a summary of what was said about her.

Myrna Evelyn Gunter has been involved since 1988 with the Fredericton Committee Symphony New Brunswick /Fredericton Friends of the Symphony, the New Brunswick Summer Music Festival and Musical Venture since 1994 including four years served on the Board of Directors. Myrna has also volunteered her time with Dance Fredericton Dance Inc., Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society, the Conservation Council of New Brunswick, the No Limits Program at University of New Brunswick, serving on the Advisory Board to this program since its inception in 2007 and the Women's Conference and Retreat; Nurturing Ourselves, where she has served on the organizing committee for 5 years.

Other endeavours include being an Ambassador for Fredericton, supporting the shelters and the food bank in Fredericton, is a member of the Canadian Federation of University women and a founding member and first vice-president of the PROBUS Club of Fredericton.

Submitted by  
Glenna Hanley  
on behalf of the board of directors



## A Teaching Day

WITH: **gksedtanamoogk**, *Wampanoag Elder*  
**Alma Brooks**, *Wolostogiyuk Clan Mother*

Date: Saturday, May 19th

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Place: St. Mary's First Nation Cultural Centre  
35 Dedham Street, Fredericton, NB

*The most remarkable feature of this historical moment on Earth is not that we are on the way to destroying the world – we've actually been on the way for quite a while. It is that we are already beginning to wake up, as from a millennium long sleep, to a whole new relationship with our world, with ourselves, and with each other.*

– Joanna Macy

*As a global learning community, we walk in solidarity with elders and newcomers, and with many in between who tend to the radical journey of our lifetime: "The journey is from seeing Earth as Resources to seeing Earth as Relatives..."*

– Brian Swimme



Are you yearning for a supportive learning community where you can work together with others on the pressing current issues of the day? Consider joining us for A Teaching Day. The day will be wrapped in Ceremony. We will sit together in a Talking Circle, listen to the wisdom of the Elders, and talk together to make the connections between the issues of today and the opportunities we have as mutual heirs to historic treaties.

As peoples committed to the land and to peace and friendship with each other, we will explore the connections between our historical Treaties and the pressing environmental, social and economic issues of our time. Now is the time to build alliances and shape a new way to live in right relationship with all with whom we share this planet. This gathering offers an opportunity to engage this process and strengthen alliances.

Participants are invited to bring a food contribution for a Pot Luck Lunch. There is no fee, but a free-will offering basket will be available to assist with set-up costs.

*Hosted by:  
Wabanaki Elders  
The Conservation Council of New Brunswick  
Fredericton's Moving Forward Together*

*And later this summer...*

*On Labour Day weekend, at the Old Burial Grounds, Woodstock Rd., Fredericton. At the close of the traditional Gathering of the Wabanaki Confederacy, peoples of all different ancestry are invited to join the all-day Gathering for an opportunity to meet together and re-affirm our commitment to the Peace and Friendship Treaties. These historic Treaties were made with each other's forebear-*



*ers in the 1700-1800's. Included will be a Recommitment Ceremony and Traditional Seed Staking Ceremony.*



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*Editor's Note*      *Contact info in the fine print:*  
 bmurray@clfu.org  
 617-948-6150

This space wants your material!