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## Contents for January 2013

Sunday Services .....	1
Budget General Meeting .....	1
Women's Pot Luck .....	1
Men's Chat Group .....	1
Hospitality Committee .....	2
Cohen Koan .....	2
Intergenerational Service .....	2
Happy New Year Everybody .....	2
MOORE, Catherine Anne .....	3
Frooman-Sankey Family .....	3
Peculiar People Day .....	3
Coffee and Scones .....	4
News from the CUC .....	4
Preventing Childhood Gun Deaths .....	5



## Sunday Services

**Jan 6** the Reverend Mary Tingley *The Inner Borealis*  
Richard Niebuhr likens an experience of aha to that of reading a complicated book and coming across a sentence that illuminates the whole complex argument presented allowing us to go backwards or forwards to understand the whole. (H. Richard Niebuhr, *The Meaning of Revelation* New York: MacMillan Publishing Co., 1941) page 68.

January 6<sup>th</sup> is named Epiphany Sunday and the theme of the Judeo-Christian story for this day points to the universal love of the divine for the whole of creation and beyond. And yet, it is one of the most neglected events in Christian Calendar.

Today we explore our love of darkness and the act of rising to greet the new day, we may even marvel at the brilliance of Orion that shines brightest in the darkened months of winter!

**Jan 13** Daryl Branscombe (President of Hospice Fredericton) *NB Hospice*

**Jan 20** Allison Calvern & George DeMille *Pilgrimage to Panama* George DeMille and Allison Calvern speak about traveling through the Panama Canal, and the

unexpected insights – even into UUism! – that travel can sometimes provide the lucky traveler.

The Unitarian Chamber Readers will be staging a reprise of their “*All I Need to Know*” performance in Saint John.

**Jan 27** Janice Harvey *Steady-state Economy*

**Feb 3** Heidi O'Donnell *Adult Literacy Learners*



## Budget General Meeting

The general meeting of the members of the Fellowship to review and approve the budget will take place at the Fellowship shortly after the January 27<sup>th</sup> service. There will be a meeting of the Board at the Fellowship shortly after the January 13<sup>th</sup> service at which preparations for the budget meeting will be made.

All members are welcome at any board meeting. All members are encouraged to make every effort to attend the budget meeting.



## Women's Pot Luck

The women's pot luck group will meet next on Friday, January 25<sup>th</sup>, at the home of Pat Mason, 362 Victoria St., Apt. 607. We gather at 6pm and eat at 6:30. Discussion topic is still to be decided. For more information contact Joan Brewer at 455-5169 or [jebrewer@rogers.com](mailto:jebrewer@rogers.com). You may park in the business lots across the street or on the street facing York St.



## Men's Chat Group

A number of men in our Fellowship have talked of the possibility of scheduling an informal evening for the men to spontaneously discuss topics of interest to them. I participated in such a group in Myrtle Beach the last two winters

and enjoyed the experience. The discussions created a bond between the men that would not otherwise have been there. Such a discussion could be scheduled at a time most convenient to those who would like to participate.

I would be willing to organize such meetings this winter at TUFF, if there is enough interest. Meeting formats and topics could be flexible. Anything discussed in the group would, of course, stay in the group.

If you are interested, please contact me. My thoughts at this time are that Wednesday nights, once or twice a month after supper at the Unitarian House might be a good schedule. Agendas would start with a check-in, followed by what ever topic a consensus would decide, and, if it seemed appropriate, we could organize a potluck from time-to-time.

Please contact me if this suggestion interests you.

John van Abbema  
454-1551 or jva1940@gmail.com



## Hospitality Committee

Greetings from Hospitality Committee

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the volunteers on the hospitality committee for their time and effort so far this year. You are all valued and appreciated. A special thank you to Haifa for keeping me on track and filling in on short notice.

I would like invite anyone in the congregation who is willing and able to donate baked goods or boxes of crackers for snacks. Everyone enjoys baked goods and our freezer stock is empty. If you wish to donate something, simply bring it with you and give it to the volunteer making coffee. Thank you to everyone who can help and to those who have helped in the past.

Happy New Year.  
Heidi



## Cohen Koan

Hallelujah

When I walked into the room, the Buddha was humming. I knew because the rice kernels in the bowls were tinkling, and because the Buddha had done this before. He'd been humming for a while now, but I'd never confronted him. This time I did. "What are you humming,?" I asked. He gave me that impassive, know-it-all stare he's been developing over the millennia. Hm?" I asked again. "What are you humming? And why?" Still looking impressively impassive, he hummed a few bars, from which I recognized

Leonard Cohen's "Hallelujah."

"Why that one? Why Hallelujah?"

"It's the word "baffled" in the line about the baffled king. The king is unhappy. He's mad at his world: his court, his followers, his children, his wives, his harpist and the Queen of Sheba. He's mad because David plays a cord that pleases the Lord and he can't. But he tries. And in the effort his basic goodness shines. He composes "Hallelujah". Isn't that cool?" "Shouldn't you just be getting on with it?" I asked carefully. Wouldn't you just call it "thinking" and quit?" The Buddha smiled. He had a lovely smile. Wide and soft. "It doesn't hurt to remember," he said, "how we all get there. Baffled, joyful, cold and broken, confused, we all get there. It doesn't go away."

"Okay," I said. "I won't tell anyone I heard you humming." "Humming?" he said, "what humming. I don't know what you're talking about. You think this happened? It didn't happen. Please close the door on your way out." As I did so the rice kernels resumed their rhythmic tinkling

Submitted by  
Lorna Drew



## Intergenerational Service



Michelle Walker and participants in the Children's RE program with tree decorated to serve the Fellowship in the celebration of the "Happy Holidays" (the Yule, Festivus, Christmas or take your pick) season.



## Happy New Year Everybody

Now as I am getting close to my own three score years and ten, with no guarantee or warranty of how long I will last, each and every day is precious. I have always been

philosophic, but now I want to try harder than ever to portray, through understanding, the true meaning of my life, and thus make every second of it count. These are the resolutions I made last year: I added just one more. I will promise myself I will do my best to resolve them.

I will have a powerfully positive attitude. I can, if I think I can. I think I can, so I will. (Do not dwell on whether the water glass is half empty or half full, be thankful there is water in it, and try to add more.)

I will never worry unnecessarily. Worry is like the dark room where negatives get developed. (Be light and bright) I will fulfill my purpose of life. I figured out why I live and what keeps me content, now I just keep implementing the plan. (Do unto others as you would have them do unto you)

I will maintain a healthy body, mind and spirit. Eat wisely, exercise all three of the former regularly. Be sure to rest when tired. ( Pain, fatigue and depression are symptoms not conditions)

I will keep giving. (Give with your heart and you will receive with a heart and a hand, when you really need to.)

I will keep forgiving. There are no justified resentments (The snakebite does not kill, it is the poison that you allow to build up in your body from that bite. Suck out the venom and allow the wound to heal.)

I will contribute towards universal peace through education and understanding of other cultures. (With nuclear and biological warfare looming in the air and over the seas, If we keep fighting over who is right, there will be none of us left to gloat.)

I will continue to seek justice and be steadfast with an open mind that is unattached and independent. (Every system can be improved upon, especially ourselves, the justice system, and, of course, the Health Care System).

I will love like a butterfly. Send love in response to hate. (Be free, but be there for each other and Thee.)

I will be creative. Without creativity and adventure, nothing would ever change. (If you think creativity is a sign of mental sickness, just consider what the world would be like without it.

I will laugh every day, even if it is at myself, for myself, or by myself. (It is up to me how each day will be lived, and how happy I will be).

I want to do without more than money this year. I want to do without the grief and the hurt that comes from listening to others who just do not understand my chronic illness.

I will leave any situation that adds stress to my life, as stress is what is killing each and every one of us more than anything else.

Written by  
Judith M. L. Day  
Fredericton. December 31, 2011



## MOORE, Catherine Anne

Was born April 20, 1955 at St Thomas, Ontario, and died on September 14, 2012 in hospital in Ottawa, Ontario, from conditions arising from her advanced stage of cancer. Cathy is the daughter of Bernard and Eileen Moore who predeceased her. She is the sister of Jane Beahen (Bill), Terry Moore (Sue) and Nancy Moore. She is also survived by her nephews Sean, Scott, Jeremy and Craig Mullin, and Dan Moore and her niece Kayla Moore. Cathy's career was with the Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB) and she also spent countless hours as an advocate for the handicapped with volunteer groups in several Canadian cities. She had a great passion for arts and culture. Of late, she lived in Ottawa but before that she made her home in the Aylmer sector of the city of Gatineau. Her passing is mourned by her family and many true friends. A memorial service celebrating her life with a reception following will be held at 11 a.m. on Monday, September 24th in the ballroom of The Palisades Retirement Residence, 480 Metcalfe Street, Ottawa. Cathy did not want flowers sent but asked that those wishing to mark her passing donate to L'Arche Agape in Gatineau, QC. ([www.larcheagape.org](http://www.larcheagape.org)) or to a charity of their choice



## Frooman-Sankey Family

Correspondences from Jeff indicate that the family have settled into their temporary home and are really enjoying the Netherlands. We wish Jeff, Alyssa, Tamara, Naomi and Zachary well and look forward to hearing their stories when they return.



## Peculiar People Day

Deuteronomy 14:22 For thou art a holy people unto the Lord thy God, and the Lord hath chosen thee to be a peculiar people unto himself, above all the nations that are upon the earth.



January 10 is Peculiar People Day. Peculiar People Day is in honor of uniquely different people. Un-ordinary, extraordinary, unusual, strange, odd, uncommon, intriguing, different, abnormal, and quirky.... These are all things that we think of to describe the word "peculiar". Most of these characteristics can be viewed as good, or not so good. Today is a day to look for the good in your peculiar

acquaintances.

If you are peculiar, this is your day to be honored and appreciated. Chances are, you will find something peculiar about yourself, if you look hard enough. If you can't find anything peculiar about yourself, then give some recognition and appreciation to your quirky friends and family.



## Coffee and Scones

Just for fun and community  
Tuesday, Jan 15 10 am – 11:30 at TUFF  
Come and stay or just drop by.

Everyone welcome, including children but there is no formal program or babysitting planned for them so far.



## News from the CUC

### Proposed New Annual Program Contribution Rate for Young Adults

In a move that recognizes the value of young adults to our national UU community, the CUC Board approved a decreased Annual Program Contribution (APC) rate for young adults aged 18-35 years. The proposed new young adult rate is \$35. This decision acknowledges the financial challenges that many young adults may face, while providing encouragement for congregations to readily welcome and include young adults as members.

Delegates at the 2013 Annual General Meeting will vote on this proposal by the Board. If approved, young adults can “sign the book” at their congregations in 2013; the new APC rate will take effect in 2014. More details will be forthcoming to congregational leaders.

### Plan a February CUC Month, Celebrate a CUC Sunday

Earlier this year, CUC Board and staff suggested that February might be designated as CUC Month. Congregations are strongly encouraged to dedicate some time to discussing all things CUC, like selection of delegates for the Annual General Meeting in May and upcoming resolutions (see details below).

We also suggest holding a Sharing Our Faith Sunday. A Sunday service package will be available soon.

### Annual Conference and Meeting 2013

The 2013 ACM will be in Calgary, at the Radisson, from May 17-19th, 2013. The theme is “Diversity: Creating

A Shared Understanding”. Six streams on the various aspects of diversity are being planned; details on program content as well as pre-ACM events will be made known before Christmas. Stay tuned for exciting programming! The Calgary Host Committee extends a personal invitation to each and every one of you to attend.

A bi-annual conference is also under consideration.

Annual General Meeting and Resolutions The AGM will be held on Friday, May 17th from 9am to 5pm at the Radisson.

### Friends of the CUC

“Friends of the CUC” is the CUC’s main fund development program; contributions from Friends comprise almost 10% of our budgeted revenue. This coming year, the CUC will focus on strengthening the Friends program – we can do a lot more with a lot more Friends! To find out how to become a Friend, go to Friends of the CUC, or call the CUC office at 1-888-568-5723.

Friends will also be given special recognition at the 2013 ACM .

### XIII is Coming!

CanUdle is the annual Youth Conference that happens in parallel with our Conference and Meeting each year. Applications to be on CanUdle staff are now being received. Applications for Co-Deans and the Logistics Coordinator were due Sat. Dec. 1st, but all other staff applications are Due Dec.15th

For more details on CanUdle, on all the staff positions and to apply see: [www.cuc.ca/youth/canuudle](http://www.cuc.ca/youth/canuudle)

### Calling Young Adults!

The CUC has several leadership opportunities open for Young Adults:

Read more [?&#2013;](#)

### Sermon-of-the-Month

The UU Ministers of Canada (UUMOC) and the CUC have jointly launched a “Sermon-of-the-Month” feature on the CUC website which highlights the best of UU ministers and ministerial students in Canada. It offers musings from the pulpit which are thoughtful, provocative, meaningful, and deeply spiritual. Check it out at Sermon-of-the-Month.

### Youth Observer to the Board Elections

The election process for the youth observer on the Board (YOB) will change – in the past, this has been held at CanUdle, the annual youth conference held at the same time as the ACM. In 2013, the election will be held on-line in order to engage a larger number of youth. Contact [yob@cuc.ca](mailto:yob@cuc.ca) to find out more.

### Environmental Action and Social Responsibility

There was discussion at the Board meeting about various ways of taking action on climate change. A Powershift conference was held in October in Ottawa, with about 1000 youth in attendance. A leader at the conference described climate change as “the civil rights movement of our time”. The CUC has an Environmental Monitoring Group, where UU’s can become more active on many different environmental and planetary concerns. Contact [socialresponsibility@cuc.ca](mailto:socialresponsibility@cuc.ca) to find out more, and take a look at the new Social Responsibility pages.

### **Universalist Unitarian Church of Halifax turns 175**

The UU Church of Halifax had a double celebration - they celebrated 175 years of UU life in Halifax on November 17th, 2012 and installed their settled minister, Rev. Norm Horofker, the next day at a ceremony that saw guests from the United States and from across Canada. Rev. Beth Miller, who was UUCH’s minister from 1991 to 1996, delivered the address. She invited Halifax UUs to “Up then, Dear Friends, and Be Doing.” Other Unitarians who could not be there, including Rev. Julie Stoneberg (President of UU Ministers of Canada) and the CUC Board and Staff, sent wishes via video.

### **Compensation for Church Staff**

The Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) has a Council on Church Staff Finances which deals with fair compensation for church staff. A Canadian was invited to sit on the Council and the CUC Board passed a motion naming Rev. Shawn Newton to the position.

### **No More Suncor**

Due to wide-spread concern about environmental impact of particular investments, the CUC has divested all its Suncor shares. As of mid-November, the CUC no longer has shares in Suncor.



## **Preventing Childhood Gun Deaths**

I received two requests to include an item abstracted from an article in the New England Journal of Medicine. It seemed to me not directly related to the mission of the Fellowship and most of the content was, I would think, beyond obvious to any thinking Unitarian. If anyone is interested, send me a note and I will forward the article to you.

Tony Fitzgerald

This space wants your material!