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Sunday Service 11 a.m.

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## Contents for June 2016

Sunday Services .....	1
NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING .....	1
Annual General Meeting - Agenda .....	2
President's Notes .....	2
Women's Pot Luck .....	3
Adult and Youth Programs .....	3
Book Review .....	4
Seven Rules of Happiness .....	4
Nominating Committee Report .....	5

Please note that the children's program will be on break from June 19 until September 4 inclusive, unless otherwise noted.

Regular Sunday Services resume on September 11, with a multigenerational Ingathering and Corn Boil.



## NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

June 12, 2016 at 11:45

Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton,  
874 York Street

In keeping with the Bylaws of the Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton, the Annual General Meeting has been called for June 12, 2016, at the Fellowship.

The following Bylaws govern our Annual General Meetings:

### 35. Annual General Meeting of Members

The Annual General Meeting of members of the Fellowship shall be held in each year, during the month of June, at such time and place as shall be fixed by the Board of Directors.

### 45. Notice of Meetings

(a) Notice of a general meeting of the members of the Fellowship shall be deemed to be sufficient if given by email to all "active" members, and posted, at least seven days prior to the time of the meeting.

### 13. Future Appointments and Elections

The Officers and Chairs of the Standing Committees of the Board of Directors shall be elected and/or appointed at each annual meeting of the Fellowship to serve for a one year term.

### 42. Voting at Meetings of Members

(a) Right to Vote: At each meeting of the members of the Fellowship every member shall be entitled to vote who is entered on the official register as a member and who has not been classified as "inactive". The Chair of the meeting shall not vote except in a case of an equality of votes in which case the Chair of the meeting shall be entitled to cast a deciding vote.

(b) Votes to Govern: At all meetings of the members of the



## Sunday Services

**June 5** Theme Sunday: *Meaning in Life*. "Milestones and Meanings." Our lives are marked by meaningful transitions and landmarks that give meaning to our life's journey. At this service, we will celebrate our new members, youth who are bridging into the young adult group, and other beginnings. We will also honour those who have died or are suffering, and invite all to bring memories or short readings about their personal or spiritual milestones.

**June 12** Installation of the new Lay Chaplain, Deby Nash, who will be joining Tony Fitzgerald in serving the congregation. This service will be followed by the Fellowship's AGM. Please plan to be there, so a quorum can elect our officers and committee chairs and vote on UFF's business items.

**June 19** Installation of the new UFF Board of Directors and Committee Chairs, and a passing of the flame. This short service will be followed by the annual UFF picnic. Please bring finger food and fruit to share!

**June 26** Beginning of Summer Sundays.

Summer Sundays are a time for members and friends to meet informally on Sunday mornings at the Fellowship, to check in with each other, share their joys and sorrows, or take part in a poetry reading or conversation. There will be a sign up sheet in the kitchen starting in mid-June for those willing to make coffee or bring iced tea, or to lead a conversation on a topic of interest.

Fellowship every question shall be decided by a majority of the votes cast on the question.

(c) Scrutineers: At each meeting of the members of the Fellowship, one or more scrutineers may be appointed by a resolution of the meeting or by the Chair of the meeting with consent of the meeting to serve at the meeting.

(d) Show of Hands: At all meetings of the members of the Fellowship, every question shall be decided by a show of hands unless a secret ballot thereon be required by the Chair of the meeting or be demanded by any member present in person.

(e) Proxies: Every member may, in writing, appoint a proxy, who must be an active member of the Fellowship, to attend at a general meeting of the members as specified in the writing, and act at the meeting in the name of the appointing member to the same extent as if the appointing member were present, subject, however, to limitations set forth in the proxy. A proxy shall cease to be valid at the end of the general meeting for which it was given. The written appointment of a proxy may be in such form as the Directors may from time to time prescribe, or in such other form as the Chair of the meeting may accept as sufficient, and shall be delivered to the Secretary of the meeting before any vote is cast under its authority. No more than two members shall give proxies to any one active member.

(f) Secret Ballots: If a secret ballot be required by the Chair of the meeting or be duly demanded by any member and the demand be not withdrawn, a secret ballot upon the question shall be taken in such manner as the Chair of the meeting shall direct.

#### **50. Duties of the Secretary**

The Secretary shall perform all duties incidental to his or her office, shall cause to be issued notices of all meetings required by these Bylaws,...

#### **48. Duties of the President**

The President shall be the Chair of the Board of Directors and shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors and of the members of the Fellowship.

The meeting will begin immediately after a brief Sunday Service at which the new Lay Chaplain is installed. All are invited to attend this meeting; members of the Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton are invited to vote by attending in person or naming another member as proxy, and by providing that person with a written and signed notice to that effect.

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Glenna Hanley, President

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Jo-Anne Elder-Gomes, Secretary  
Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton



## **Annual General Meeting - Agenda**

**Note:** The Annual General Meeting of the Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton will be held on June 12, 2016, following a short service. Please plan to attend.

Documents for the AGM will be sent by email over the course of the next few days. Proxy forms are available by email from secretary@uff.ca.

### **The Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton Annual General Meeting June 12, 2016 Proposed Agenda**

- 1) Call to order
- 2) Chalice lighting and opening words
- 3) Determination of Quorum (12 required?)
- 4) Approval of Agenda
- 5) Approval of Minutes of the Annual General Meeting June 14, 2015
- 6) Approval of Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Membership, September 13, 2015
- 7) Approval of Minutes of the Annual Budget Meeting, January 31, 2016
- 8) Approval of Minutes of the Special Meeting, March 20, 2016
- 9) Review and Adoption of the Financial Statement for 2015
- 10) Approval of Interim Financial Report for 2016
- 11) Acceptance of Board and Committee Annual Reports
- 12) Reaffirmation of continuing Lay Chaplain
- 13) Report of the Nominating Committee
- 14) Election of new Board of Directors and Committee Chairs
- 15) Transitional meeting for incoming Board members
- 16) Closing Words
- 17) Adjournment



## **President's Notes**

“Roll out those lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer.”

Showing my age with that quote from an old Nat King Cole song. But I do expect things will slow down at the fellowship during July and August as is our custom.

Meanwhile we've got some very important business to do during the month of June. Our annual general meeting and voting in a new board of directors take place June 12. I hope as many members as possible will show up for that Sunday and exercise their right to chose a new board as well as give the nod to a new slate of committee chairs.

Something new this coming year of 2016-2017, we hope to see a youth observer join the board. Our youth group will decide on a process and chose their representative.

### Installation Ceremony

I don't know if we did this in the past but the board agreed at its May 1 meeting we would have some sort of formal installation of board members at the Sunday service on June 19. That is also the date for our annual potluck picnic and a celebration of the end of another fellowship year.

The board also agreed that starting June 19 our children's religious education program will be suspended for the summer.

I have been on a bit of a hiatus during May (busy with a visit from my youngest brother who lives in New Zealand). So I have yet to catch up on how things went with the Canadian Unitarian Council annual conference and annual general meeting in Vancouver. I did pop in once to the fellowship and saw that Myron Hedderson and Najat Abdou-McFarland had the annual meeting live streaming on our big TV screen and it was working well. This is the first year the CUC has provided this service where delegates could participate via the internet and even vote on motions without having to leave home. Myron and Najat were our two allotted delegates. Other members were also welcome to drop in and observe the meetings and a service on Sunday.

I am also hoping to hear from the five youth who attended their parallel conference in Vancouver, dubbed the CANUDDLE.

### Help for local refugees

At last count we have contributed around \$600 to \$700 to assist the Halifax Universalist Unitarian Church with their support of a Syrian Refugee family. Najat reported at the last board meeting that Halifax was doing well with its funding efforts. The board adopted her suggestion that for now we donate any additional funds raised by us for local Syrian families through the Multicultural Association of Fredericton.

An ad hoc gardening project committee has been established and continues to look at what options we have to install a garden on our property. If anyone is interested in helping please contact Najat at najat.a.mcfarland@gmail.com

Well this is my last Touchstone installment as your president for 2015-2016. I said this in my annual report for the AGM but it bears repeating. I am most grateful to the board members we had this year, for their support of this rookie president, and for their steadfast support of the fellowship as a whole. Also I thank our dedicated and generous committee chairs and members.

Don't think I am supposed to steal the show from the

nomination committee or the voting members so who fills this spot in the newsletter next will be up to you.

Thanks for reading me.

Blessèd be  
Glenna Hanley, president



## Women's Pot Luck

The next Unitarian Fellowship women's pot luck will be held Friday, June 24th. Diane Reid will host the gathering at her home, 134 Woodmere Drive, Upper Kingsclear (directions below). Boat, canoe, kayaks available if you want to come early. We gather at 6 PM and eat at 6:30 PM. The topic for discussion will be "Describe your first experience(s) with \*money\*. Has that experience influenced your choices since? If so, in what way?" For further information contact Joan Brewer at jebrewer@rogers.com

Diane's land line (506) 363-5994

1. From New Maryland or Fredericton South, take No. 2 West to Exit 271 (Mazerolle Settlement Rd.), the first exit after Hanwell Road. Turn R at the exit stop sign toward Upper Kingsclear. Follow Mazerolle 6.5 km to Illingsworth—the first left turn after Mountain Rd., Sears Rd., and the former Kelly's Lodge (camper units). Illingsworth [mailboxes] descends, hooks left as Woodmere; 134 is on the water (R) side of Woodmere, bottom of the hill [Canadian flag].
2. Scenic drive: From Fredericton W., follow 102 (Old Woodstock Road) about 7 km past Mactaquac Dam to Mazerolle Settlement Road [flashing amber light]. Turn L off the highway; go one short block; turn R onto Woodbine Lane. Follow Woodbine to the "T" intersection [stop sign]. Turn R onto Woodmere and follow Kelly's Creek to 134.
3. From Fredericton North: Take Westmorland Bridge and Old Woodstock Road (102) as above; or take 105 to Mactaquac, cross the dam, and pick up 102 W. from there.



## Adult and Youth Programs

The YaYAs-Bee group will be meeting on Wednesday, June 8 to discuss plans for the summer and the coming year. With several youth bridging this year, we hope to organize some Young Adult mini-cons (basically an overnight at the Fellowship with a potluck and a late-night worship, and informal discussion). We also need to talk about how to sustain and grow programs for the junior youth and youth members of our Fellowship and reach out to others in the community. Please plan to attend the meeting on June 8

from 7 to 8:30.

Jo-Anne will be organizing a screening of the 2016 Confluence Lecture by Rev. Melora Lyngood, entitled "They Will Know We are UUs by Our Love," later this month. Among other topics, the lecture discusses theme-based ministry, compassionate communication, and spiritual practices for lay leaders, and I would like to look at some Sunday services and adult programs to explore these more fully next year. Stay tuned for the date!



## Book Review

A long way gone. Memoirs of a Boy Soldier by Ishmael Beah starts with an intriguing title. I don't know why the capital letters are omitted but maybe because of the difficulty in finding himself after "a long way gone" that was very hard to fit into later life. The book shows what fear can do to a society and how the spirit of goodness can work to overcome it. There are also interesting glimpses of everyday life in his country. He loved reciting Shakespeare and rap music.

Twelve year-old Ishmael lived in Sierre Leone in 1993 when the Revolutionary United Front army invaded his village. They were justifiably protesting a corrupt government but their random slaughter of anyone getting in their way was appalling. Ishmael and some friends were away at a talent show in a nearby town, so they escaped and for a long time wandered the countryside and villages, meeting fear from those who thought they were rebel soldier boys, danger from rebel invaders, desperate hunger and thirst. Meeting the government army finally saved the lives of those chosen to be boy soldiers. This provided food, fellowship and a security that came from knowing their role. Ishmael became a junior officer among the boys.

It's appalling to read how they came to see every possible rebel as someone who killed their families and move from shooting them to cutting their throats and disembowelling them. Drugs are used to help them keep going. They are saved by a UNICEF official who probably paid to get them freed and took them to a rehabilitation centre in the capital. Ishmael goes silent, wondering how anyone can understand him and accept him. More horror stories of his past are gradually revealed, just as memories would come to someone.

It takes love, patience and skill for the nurse Esther and others on the staff to get through to him. One of the main links is a Walkman Esther buy and some tapes of the rap music he loves. He can only use it if he comes to see her as otherwise it would be stolen by jealous boys. A former student of mine found similar rehabilitation in music through a minister who helped him develop his rap talents in a refugee camp in Africa. The staff also find

Ishmael's uncle and family. Though it is very hard for him to feel accepted by those unable to understand or accept his past he does gradually find himself in friendship and the story-telling and light loving conversation of the family.

The final step described in the book comes when He is chosen to speak to the U.N. Parliament of Youth in New York about his experiences. He discovers there are others who can understand his world, that his skill in speech making is valuable and that there is another world out there with people he can fit in with. We only get hints of the rest of his life. He refers to a woman story-teller he meets in New York as his future mother and explains how his uncle and family understand his decision to move. Notes tell us he graduated from an American university and was a successful student. So the spirit of love succeeds. I'll put this one out on the table at the Unitarians and anyone who wants to read it is welcome to take it and put it back. I'm not sure what category we'd put it under in the library, Sheila Andrew



## Seven Rules of Happiness

### As Posted on Facebook

1. Make peace with your past . . .so it won't disturb your present.
2. What other people think of you is none of your business.
3. Time heals almost everything. . . .give it time.
4. No one is in charge of your happiness except you.
5. Don't compare your life with others and don't judge them. You have no idea what their journey is all about.
6. Stop thinking too much. It's alright not to know the answers. They will come to you when you least expect it.
7. Smile, you don't own the problems in the world.

Thanks Jo-Anne for the month of "Happiness" themed services!

Sheila Moore



# Nominating Committee Report

## Report to the Board from the Nominating Committee of The Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton 2016

The nominating committee met four times in person and connected by phone between meetings. We quickly became aware that our membership numbers are low at the present time, but we do have some people who are active in the Fellowship but are not members and cannot be nominated as a Director on the Board or as a chair of one of the committees.

According to our By-laws a Board member serves for a one-year term and is not permitted to hold the same position on the Board for more than two consecutive years. A Chairperson of a Standing committee also serves for a one year term and can be re-elected each year to serve as chair on the same committee for as long as he or she agrees to chair of the committee and is re-elected at the AGM.

We have prepared a list of people to be presented to the membership at the AGM to serve the Fellowship July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017. There are some important positions vacant and our hope is that there may be nominations from the floor at AGM or that this Fall some people may offer to fill these roles.

We have two suggestions to make to the Board:

1. The Board seriously consider purchasing a program to help the treasurer keep the financial records.
2. Following the AGM that each elected person receive a copy of the 2016 by-laws

Members of nominating committee:

Gail Moore, Joan Brewer, Margaret Fitzgerald

Names of people presented by the nominating committee at the AGM 2016

The Board of Directors is composed of Past President, President, Secretary, Treasure, and Vice-Presidents of three sections. The Board is elected by the membership, accountable to the membership as well as to other governing bodies, and responsible for the legal, financial, and functional governance of the organization. Each standing committee belongs to one of the three sections. The Board supports the work of the committees, providing them with information and communicating their needs and interests to other Board members.

### Board of Directors

<b>President:</b> Glenna Hanley <b>Past-president:</b> Sheila Thompson <b>Secretary:</b> <i>vacant</i> <b>Treasurer:</b> Bill Knight		
<b>Programs &amp; Ministry</b>	<b>Communications &amp; Outreach</b>	<b>Finance &amp; Facilities</b>
<b>Vice-president:</b> Sheila Moore <b>Associate VP:</b> Deby Nash	<b>Vice-president:</b> Gail Moore <b>Associate VP:</b> Margaret Fitzgerald	<b>Vice-president:</b> Myron Hedderson <b>Associate VP:</b> Betty Ponder

### Standing Committees

<b>Sunday Services:</b> Jo-Anne Elder-Gomes <b>Children's Program:</b> <i>vacant</i> <b>Hospitality:</b> <i>vacant</i> <b>Adult Programs:</b> <i>vacant</i> <b>Caring:</b> Janet Crawford <b>Lay Chaplaincy:</b> Sheila Moore	<b>Social Responsibility:</b> Myron Hedderson <b>Public Awareness:</b> Anne Leslie <b>Membership:</b> Janet Crawford	<b>Buildings and Grounds:</b> Ken Moore <b>Finance:</b> <i>vacant</i>
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### Agents

<b>Lay Chaplains:</b> Tony Fitzgerald Deby Nash	<b>Newsletter:</b> Tony Fitzgerald	
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