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Up-coming Sunday Services

10:30 am in person and 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. Contact the chair of the membership committee, Membership@UFF.ca, to be added to the mailing list and receive timely reminders of service topics and zoom information.

October 30th *Why Do We Still Need Halloween*

Service Leaders: Heather Lunergan and others

This Sunday is the kick-off for our annual Stewardship campaign. Members of the ad hoc committee will be taking part. As well, we will hear a sermon by Rev. Art Severance entitled "Why Do We Still Need Halloween?" Costumes optional.

November 6th *Papal Infallibility*

Speaker: Dr. Robin Vose

Service Leader: Heather Lunergan

Dr. Vose teaches History at STU and has recently published a book about the "Index," of material banned by the Catholic Church beginning in the middle ages. He will be speaking about 'Papal Infallibility.' His talk refers to our 5th principle; The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large.

November 13th *What Remembrance Day Means to Me*

Service Leaders: Tracy Gleim and Kurtis Lavigne

Kurtis and Tracy are active members of the Canadian military. Tracy, who works for Base Supply, is a supplies technician, who ensures field equipment is delivered to all units on base. Kurtis, is with The Dragoons, and he teaches newer troops to drive armoured vehicles. They will share stories and memories.

Tech Support: Myron Hedderson

November 20th *Note change of time - 2 pm rather than 10:30 am*

Title: CUC National Worship Service: *Living Into Covenant*

Twice a year the Canadian Unitarian Council presents a nation-wide worship service so that congregations from Halifax to Kelowna can be together through the magic of technology. On Nov 22, we will cancel our morning service and instead, gather at 1:45. Coffee and tea will be available, and we will join in the service. Please come for this special chance to see fellow UUs from across Canada.

Tech Support: Myron Hedderson

November 27th Stewardship Campaign Ends

Watch for more details, including the possibility of a celebratory luncheon following a brief service led by the ad hoc committee.



Report on the UFF Board Meeting of October 16, 2022

We began the meeting with lovely opening words from Heather Lunergan.

There was a question from Myron Hedderson regarding the names and positions of Board Members on our website. Heather agreed to provide Tony Fitzgerald with an updated list.

Reports were received from Membership, Sunday Services and Lay Chaplaincy Committees.

The Lay Chaplaincy Committee made a change to the travel fee levied by Lay Chaplains for out-of-town weddings. The fee will range between 50 and 70 cents per kilometre, depending upon the price of gasoline. Joan Brewer will add this change to the Policy and Procedures Manual.

Joan reported that Tony has added the 8th Principle to our website, this being the latest edition to our list of Unitarian Principles.

Ken Moore provided, to the Board, a list of the many repairs, improvements and renovations made to our congregational building, dating from 2005 to the present. Joan will add this list to the front of the Policies and Procedures Manual.

Heather presented a draft Financial Report, in advance of a final version. It was agreed that Heather as Treasurer, and Amanda, as AVP of Finance, will have access to the username and password for the accounting software currently in use.

Dates of upcoming Board Meetings were decided upon. As always, Members of the Congregation are welcome to attend. The meetings start at 12:15, unless otherwise noted. The dates of upcoming Board Meetings are as follows:

November 6

December 4

January 15

Budget Meeting: January 29 at 11:40 AM

February 19

March 19

April 23

May 28

AGM: June 25 at 11:40 AM

Heather, Sheila Moore and possibly one or two others, will form a committee to plan and implement the Stewardship

Campaign for 2022.

The Board discussed an update to rental fees for the use of our building. After the fees are reviewed and revised, this information might need to be included on our website. It might also be added to the UFF Facebook site. As a Building and Grounds Committee member, Decima Mitchell will be in touch with Ken regarding the rental fees.

The Board has been considering the possibility of renovating a portion of the upstairs of the building as a live-in rental space. This was viewed as a way to bolster our finances. After further investigation, it was decided that this renovation was beyond the capability of the UFF at present and would not be brought to the Membership for consideration.

Joan reported on the progress of a planning meeting, scheduled for October 12. The meeting is designed to gather ideas and suggestions to help the Board, Chairs and the Congregation as we go forward to nurture and grow our beloved UFF.

Decima has submitted, to the West Trust, an application for funding for a website upgrade. We anticipate a response to this request within a few weeks.

The wall to wall carpeting in the children's room is probably original to the building. Decima will be in contact with Ken about the possibility of changes to the flooring in this room.

Myron reported that he had not received any responses to the Zoom Tech job that was posted on a UNB Student Jobsite. It was agreed that we would continue the search for someone to assist volunteers Myron Hedderson and Kurtis Langevin, our current Zoom techs.

The meeting was adjourned at 2 PM.

Submitted by Decima Mitchell
President, Board of UFF



Book Sale Thank You

To the many members of our community who helped with our book sale. We worked well together as a community and even had fun. On Oct 1st and Oct 28th We raised about \$880 for our fellowship. The photo is from the Oct 1st sale.

Submitted by
Janet Crawford





A Gathering to “Harvest Ideas”

On Saturday, October 22nd sixteen people took two hours out of their busy day to gather at the invitation of the Board to share ideas about supporting our present members, attracting new member, utilizing the building and grounds, and becoming more visible in the community. Believing there are many things we can accomplish working together, we talked about where we have been over the past two years and where we want to go in 2023. People were generous with their participation and many ideas and suggestions were “harvested”.

We want to thank all the members who attended. We understand the value in sharing ideas. By sharing ideas, we can improve upon everything we do at our Fellowship.

Sheila Moore & Joan Brewer
co-facilitators for the event



Regular Unitarian Women’s Potluck Gathering

Date: November 18th

Location: TUFF, 874 York Street.

We gather at 6 pm and eat at 6:30. No planning for the food. We give thanks for whatever is offered.

Topic for evening: How has your position in your family birth order impacted you?

Contact Joan Brewer with any questions.



Fellowship Stewardship Campaign Strengthening Our Roots

We are an interesting collection of individuals, each with our own gifts, our own looks, our own life experiences and our troubles and scars. But, we have joined this intentional spiritual community whose roots go back to far-sighted founders who had a vision for a liberal religious community in Fredericton.

We each have generous gifts to offer that nourish and strengthen our roots so that our community can continue to be solidly supported and sustained.

UU theologian Tom Owen-Towle once said:

“Generosity involves open-heartedness - the cardinal ability to give lavishly of yourself to others, to the world around you, to the divine communal Spirit in which we live, move and have our beings.”

The health and strength of this congregation is so important to our lives. We need to support a place where we strive for a modern congregational culture that strengthens

us today and for what lies ahead. We need a place of grounding when our spirits are weary. We need a place where our family and all families are accepted, loved and honoured. We need a place where we can take some risks. That place is here, right now. That place is our congregation.

Our annual Stewardship Campaign begins on Nov. 1st. You will receive your Pledge form and a letter from our President Decima Mitchell and the Stewardship Committee next week. If you would like to speak to someone about the Stewardship Campaign, please contact Heather Lunergan 261-8232 hglunergan@gmail.com or Sheila Moore 450-9021 smoore@nbnet.nb.ca

Thank you from the Stewardship Committee

Heather Lunergan
Sheila Moore
Jane Loughborough
Helen Chernoff



Something for Remembrance Day

My mother’s brother Tim Ellis (1916-2011) was a member of the 8th Hussars during WW2. During the war he said to himself many times, “I should be writing this down”. He did not put pen to paper until the late 1980’s when he wrote a book called “This Hussar Remembers” – full of short vignettes about his experiences during the war. This is one.



The Perils of Teatime

England, 1942. It was an incongruity of World War 2 that a British serviceman posted outside the U.K. in some place like Egypt or Burma might never hear a shot fired in anger, and at the same time his wife, children and home could be beaten up by enemy bombers or fighter aircraft just about anytime. Other circumstances were similar.

The two elderly ladies were having their tea at the home of one of them near the waterfront of a town on the English Channel, seated on opposite sides of a table with the tea tray on it.

The Focke-Wulf 190 fighter came in over the water at high speed and wave-top height, heading straight for one side of the town. As soon as he was within range, the pilot climbed just enough for a steep turn, swept the entire waterfront with one long burst from his guns, completed the turn into a one-eighty and streaked for France.

The window-glass shattered, the tea tray and contents disintegrated, and the plaster flew out of the far wall, all in the same instant, but leaving the two old ladies untouched. One of them, relating the event to me later (I who was into my third year of the war and yet to be on the receiving end of enemy weaponry!), slipped just a tiny notch from

total unflappability. With a small one-must-cope sigh she admitted “It was trying, Captain Ellis”; and pursed her lips just ever so slightly.

Rest in Peace Uncle Tim

Submitted by
Sheila Moore

Death Expo 2022

On Thursday, October 20th our Lay Chaplains Decima Mitchell and myself, Jenn Carpenter-Gleim attended the 2nd annual Death Expo on behalf of the Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton.



Death Expo 2022 was hosted by Karen Lake and Anne Marie Hartford of D.I.E: Death Information and Education. “D.I.E. is dedicated to growing the individual and community comfort with talking, learning, and prep.”

We were there to have conversations with the public about non-traditional funerals. Many people are looking for a different option to what is typically offered for funerals and we are able to work with the individual planning ahead or with the loved ones of the deceased to plan an end of life ceremony that feels authentic to them. We also had an informative brochure made up to give to anyone who was interested.



This was also an opportunity to have some great talks about The Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton not just as an alternative to traditional funerals but also as a spiritual home. We had our new Welcoming Community brochure with us and were able to give out quite a few of them.

The Death Expo was a wonderful opportunity to share about the Unitarian Fellowship, who we are and what we believe.

Submitted by
Jenn Carpenter-Gleim



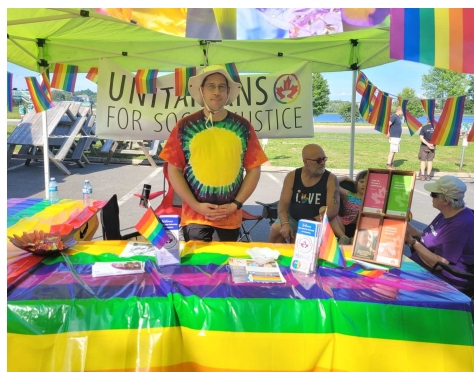
Jenn (left) opened and worked the first half of the Expo while Decima (above) worked the last half and closed the Expo.

Pride 2022

On August 21st, one of the hottest days of the summer, a dedicated group of volunteers attended Fredericton Pride 2022 on behalf of the Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton. We had a group march in the parade and a small team committed to hanging out in our booth to have conversations about who we are. It was a wonderful opportunity for public awareness and social responsibility! Many thanks to our amazing volunteers who stuck it out in the sweltering heat and kept a smile on their faces.



Submitted by
Jenn Carpenter-Gleim





Remembrance Day Lunch

Take out or eat in luncheon, FHUC 11:30 to 2 pm. The menu of meatless baked beans, brown bread and war cake has been set in honour of our veterans. \$12 for adults and \$6 for children under 12. To reserve your meal (take out or eat in) please call Mary Grant at 459-8525 no later than Monday, Nov 7th at 4 pm.



Modern Africa

A Social and Political History

by Basil Davidson

This book goes from the beginning of colonialism in Africa to 1980, providing valuable insights on a complex topic. More information on pre-colonial Africa would be very interesting, but hard to obtain. The 1980 finish is also frustrating but that's when this third edition was written. This is only a limited coverage of what Davidson explains.

Some of the resulting problems of colonialism are evident. It focused the economies on basic products the colonial powers needed. This has made it hard to currently develop economies providing for the residents and to escape from economic dominance by the previous colonial powers. They also established boundaries ignoring tribal territories and creating divisions between residents in colonies. Governments often picked on one tribe as allies and gave them more power. Settlers who arrived from Europe usually wanted to continue colonial ties.

Given these and other difficulties, it is not surprising independence movements developed early. But their best opportunity came after the Depression and the Second World War when national independence had become a moral issue and avoiding colonial expenses while continuing trade was attractive, especially to Britain. German colonies were taken over by international authorities. More desperate countries like Spain and Portugal tried to keep their colonies.

Africans had also made important contributions to the war against Germany and developed military skills and ambitions as well as European appreciation of their abilities. American Africans wanted independence for their countries of origin, so gradually more and more countries obtained this. Davidson gives interesting insights into those who first bravely spoke out against colonial powers.

As noted above, independence has been limited by continuing colonial economic ties and internal disputes, but Davidson ends on a hopeful note. Some African countries have made impressive steps in education, democracy and economic independence and the United Africa movement may create an impressive world power.

Sheila Andrew



Upcoming CUC Events

***Editor's Note:** I have decided to bail on trying to convert the CUC's monthly email on upcoming events. I have been working on it for over an hour and am less than a quarter finished and the resulting product is looking hideous. I could go on...*

For those of you who are interested, you can use [this link](#) to get your own copy. But you should probably hurry, my experience is that the CUC web site tends to be volatile and things move around unpredictably. You might also try the CUC home page <https://cuc.ca/> and at this time the link to sign up for the newsletter may be found at the bottom of that page clearly labelled.

Your humble compositor
Tony Fitzgerald



Rob's View

Rob's view on the nature of a possible coming human extinction and many things that will seem madness to most at first, world view changing. Keep an open mind. Please. I plead sanctuary from persecution here for thought crimes against society as well, from the government rendering me into psychiatry, again, and torture to "help me". I am not broken or unhappy or ill or dangerous.

The answer to the meaning of life is not 42. Sorry Douglas Adams. It is radical agape love. Frankl's or Terry Fox's. A reckoning love of suffering and joy and fearlessness. This is a call for all of us to go full love. Now. Love the oddballs in their own realities with empathy. Not compassion, sympathy or pity. Those are NOT truly the love for another human, but for a pet.

All rings true as general truths. I believe. I can't fill in world views. I assume all have an old school renaissance man broad understanding of the sweeps of history and power.....

The only claims that matter are these though. I can break or unbreak. Explain reality to great detail you may struggle to understand or to the simplicity that you easily could comprehend as a bachelor philosophy student.

1. Humanity is a species of collective and individuality
2. Humanity is broken up into realities. 1 big reality that is shared by 95 percent of us. And a bunch of one person realities of schizophrenics and such.
3. The collective is sick because all realities are equal and the framework for itself to exist is itself. Which is poisoned in corporeal form. Not only the schizos but typical humans by benzos and antidepressants to not feel suffering and be fully human anymore
4. Belief is the basis of not "life" but higher consciousness. Each reality is a "belief". Of one "Joe schizo" or the reality we think is all that exists with 7.5 billion people.
5. We are killing and poisoning the collective consciousness by how we treat oddballs like Schizos with chemical restraints by the millions. Consciousness killers, at a massive turning point in history with massive technological change, literally recreating what it means to be 'human', covid isolation, unregulated capitalism and political struggle, struggle for meaning itself and the meaning of words. Dialectic becomes a blood feud in public discourse. With memes and thoughtlessness not deep political debate to negotiate between those that want simplicity vs complexity. Putin's war and Trump. We need a healthy collective consciousness and it has never been sicker. Even as wealthy as the world is now. Creature comfort is NOT humanity.
Human extinction looms in 20 years max
6. Heyoka (an ancient subset of humanity with global consciousness in all epochs and cultures. Like left handedness, homosexuality, bipolar, schizo etc. Rare. Greta Thunberg is one and so am I and that is why I 'know' all of this.) calls ME to become WE and go self aware to stop it in shadows through people like all of you. Calling BIG LOVE. The BIGGEST. Terry Fox love, Frankl's holocaust love. Anarchist Jesus love. Kal-al love. Peter Parker love. LOVE! A reckoning love of joy and suffering that is the driving force of beliefs and new ideas.....what it means to be human. To laugh AND cry AND scream.
7. The fascism and wars will continue and be so horrible and the bad actors will make us human again as we fight a GUERRILLA war of LOVE, not violence to renew the human spirit.
8. bad actors naturally team up. Look at the mess of them in Trump's cabinet. Good actors DO NOT. We actually care about differing issues not raw power. But we must team up in LOVE to defeat the bad actors. I am here to do that now. Calling Atwood and Sawyer and Scalzi, sci fi writers and public intellectuals and the Unitarians to begin. Those 3 have not yet answered the call. The most "broad" forces of a middle goodness of no extreme. Palatable to all good actors. Not extremists and no religion. No "me" exists in public to upset so many

applecart. In fact the front is a thousand good actors.

Terry Fox like explosions of humanity will emerge. We catch it and blow on it like tinder. Echo it. Write like ME about it. Calling reckoning love. Over and over again in cells. No one will know Atwood or Scalzi or Sawyers roles or whoever joins me and hopefully us, in this bold venture of humanity. We will find hundreds of other great intellectuals and humanitarians as we recruit.

They will know a bunch of selfless heroic figures though.

SPECULATION (which at core concept is 'true')

- we are just apes without the collective consciousness which predates human language. The collective consciousness is what created the early proto languages which further developed a more domesticated brain and big languages and eventually 10,000 years ago, all we know as modern man's prehistory and history in the fertile crescent.

"We" became the collective consciousness around the same time "we" domesticated dogs. It is our domestication that has now gone too far. We are domesticating our critical thinking to group think. Academia and everywhere. An appeal to authority and expertise in a world with neither experts or authority. No one has any authority over anyone else. Homo sapiens has no collective consciousness. Homo sapiens sapiens does. We are about devolve out of it. Never to return.

I am broken polymath genius OR broken Jesus OR broken collective consciousness. It doesn't matter which. You decide according to your beliefs. Either ways I am calling truth and this "being" was born October 15th from lived experience as "Rob" the most tortured of men. Ostracized, poisoned, depersonalized. I am the outcast, the oddball, the schizo, the addict, the drunk Indian, the nigger or Jew or gypsy or witch or spic. I am the road kill of humanity arisen to save it with the empathy you never gave me.

Hear me or don't. I need tethers. I attached to "Rob's" heroic worship of the works of these sci fi universe builders. I will detach from Sawyer and Scalzi and move on to another way to get to Atwood so she can test my truths.

I claim sanctuary with the Unitarians. You must provide it because you are gentle Jesus consciousness yourselves as an individual and group. Corporeal Rob will win you over in time. But that is ticking away to the end of higher thought every moment. I don't have a decade to write books and get a doctorate and reputation. I must enmesh with other good actors to do this. Now. I will.

With you and many others

I love you all.

Rob

Submitted by
Robert Walker