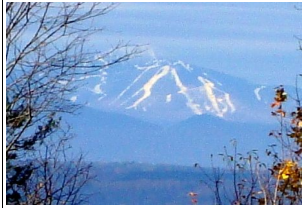


nouvelles news

November 2010 novembre



Events this Month

All Sunday services start at 10:00 am unless otherwise specified.
We have an active children's program during our Sunday service, at which
all children are warmly welcome

November 5

“Eastern Region Fall Gathering”

Friday, Nov. 5 to Sunday Nov. 7, at the Unitarian Church of Montreal, a gathering of UUs from Kingston to St. John's, for learning, networking, and fine fellowship. Save the dates! Billets available.

November 7

“NO SERVICE IN NORTH HATLEY”

All are invited to join our UU friends at the Unitarian Church of Montreal, 5035 deMaisonnette O., where the Sunday Service on 'Embracing Change' will be the closing event in what is called the Eastern Fall Gathering of the 11 UU Congregations in the Eastern part of Canada, from Kingston to St. John's.

Members and Friends of UUEstrie are encouraged to plan on attending all or part of the EFG in Montreal. Lots of good ideas, workshops, and fellowship with UUs from other Eastern congregations. An ingathering on the Friday night, activities all day Saturday, and the Sunday worship. Come, enjoy, and learn with us. Billets available.

November 14

Rev. Carole Martignacco

“Our Corner of the Interfaith Mosaic”

As an open, non-dogmatic religious community, we seek to honour all world religions. The first step beyond mere tolerance toward deeper understanding is to challenge ourselves.

Children! Theme: The Gift of Friends. Activity: Please bring a friend.

Service Leader:

Musician: Pat Bird

Coffee Convenor: the Jensens

Flower Convenor: Ann Rothfels

November 21

Rev. Brendan Hadash

“Is Christopher Hitchens Great?”

Brendan is a former minister here in North Hatley and now Parish Minister at St. Johnsbury, Vermont Universalist Church. Christopher Hitchens, whose book "God Is Not Great", is one of a spate of recent authors criticizing belief in God as a naive, ascientific superstition. Brendan will share his reflections on the views of these contemporary atheists.

Brendan is also a political candidate in this fall's U.S. election. He is guaranteed to have stories to share.

Children! Theme: Being Present.

Service Leader: Keith Baxter

Musician: Mary-Ann McCarron

Coffee Convenor: Lucie Craft

Flower Convenor: Ann Rothfels

November 28

Dr. Marcel Arcand

“Modern medicine and End of life issues for the elderly”

Dr. Marcel Arcand is a professor at the Université de Sherbrooke whose main work is with the Centre of Research on Aging CSSS-IUGS. The idea is that end of life issues are becoming more complex with modern medicine's new technology. Ethical discussions and decisions on therapeutic appropriateness are almost always necessary near the end of life.

Children! Theme: Our Community. Activity: Trip to local park. Please dress warmly!

Service Leader: Carol McKinley
 Musician: France Thibault
 Coffee Convenor: Adele Ernstrom
 Flower Convenor: Ann Rothfels

December 5
Mr. Salim Hashmi
"Pakistan Today"

Service Leader: Rachel Garber
 Musician: Pat Bird
 Coffee Convenor: Mary-Ann McCarron
 Flower Convenor: Ann Rothfels

New Words

From the Washington Post's annual Mensa invitational where readers were asked to take any word from the dictionary, alter it by adding, subtracting or changing one letter and supply a new definition. Among the winners:

INTAXICATION: Euphoria at getting a tax refund, which lasts until you realize it was your money to start with.

BOZONE: The substance surrounding stupid people that stops bright ideas from penetrating. The bozone layer, unfortunately, shows little sign of breaking down in the near future.

GIRAFFITTI: Vandalism spray painted very, very high.

SARCHASM: The gulf between the author of sarcastic wit and the person who doesn't get it.

OSTEOPORNOSIS: A degenerate disease. (This one got extra credit.)

KARMAGEDDON: It's like, when everybody is sending off all these really bad vibes, right? And then, like, the Earth explodes and it's like, a serious bummer.

DECAFALON: The gruelling event of getting through the day consuming only things that are good for you.

GLIBIDO: All talk and no action.

DOPELER EFFECT: The tendency of stupid ideas to seem smarter when they come at you rapidly.

KB

It matters what we believe

It matters what we believe.

Some belief are like walled gardens. They encourage exclusiveness and the feeling of being especially privileged.

Other beliefs are expansive and lead the way into wider and deeper sympathies.

-- Sophia Lyon Fahs

Unitarian Universalist minister and religious educator

Children's Corner

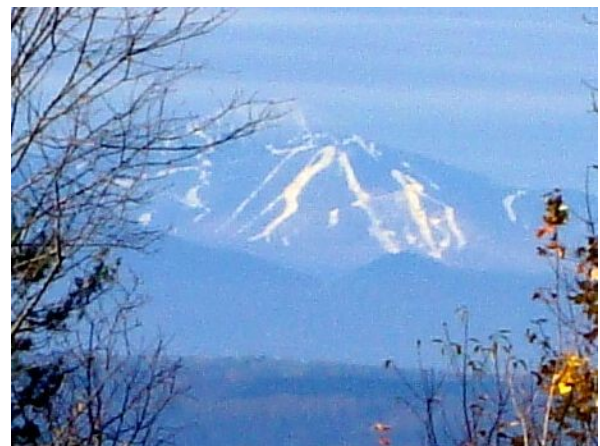
"A community that plays together, stays together."

- Kofi Annan, former UN Sec. General.

Our Sunday morning begins with children as active participants in the first stages of our worship service, lighting the chalice, and may include lighting the chalice, assisting with Joys and Sorrows by distributing candles, and giving our best attention to the Story For All Ages. Children are sung out to their own activities on a spiritual theme, with a bioligual song: Go Now In Peace. The presence and energy of our children brings a lively spirit to our worship. Our deep appreciation to Jane Gowman, our wise and talented Children's Programme Coordinator, and to the volunteers who assist her in this important ministry.

First Snow on the Mountains

Jay Peak, 17 October 2010



Report on Haiti

Dear friends and supporters,

It's been a while, but wanted to bring you up to date with news about where your donations have gone.

I have been sending regular payments to the orphanage (via trusted friends going to Haiti) to cover the cost of food, medicine, etc. The latest installment, sent in September, paid for driving lessons for a few of the older children who are leaving the orphanage. With a driver's license, they will at least have a skill that will help them find work. (And believe me, driving in Haiti takes ALOT of skill). Plans are now underway for a \$1.4-million project that will include a dormitory for 100 children and school for 400. (See attached story). The funding is coming from Quebec companies as well as the Jacqueline Lessard Foundation, named after the 84-year-old co-founder of the orphanage. If you want to help more, Jean Coutu stores are accepting donations until Oct. 25.

Here is the story:

<http://www.montrealgazette.com/news/Building+future+children+Haiti/3669470/story.html>

Your money also paid for a special printer to make identification cards, replacement ink cartridges and a hole punch. Carl-Henry Jean-Baptiste, the young man who worked with me post-earthquake, has set up his own business called Sue-Port Multi Services. (I had nothing to do with the name. Honest). Since so many people lost their identification in the earthquake, Carl, who lives in a camp with his wife and 7-year-old son, decided to make it his business to make up photo ID. Business is booming. He also charges for long-distance phone calls on a skype phone, repairs computers and charges cell phone batteries. With time, he hopes to be able to buy a small plot of land and build a secure home. We still have funds in the bank. It seems to me the orphanage now has the backing of some pretty solid funders, so perhaps we can use that money in other ways.

One suggestion I have is to cover at least partial tuition fees for students attending Decamus Business School. This is a school run by the family with whom I lived post-earthquake that provides courses in accounting, computers, English and Spanish.

I invite your feedback about this suggestion. And, as always, if anyone has questions or concerns about where the money is going or has gone, please don't hesitate to contact me. The books are open to everyone!

Thank you once again for your continued support and concern for Haiti. While I doubt we'll ever be funding a \$1.4-million project, it's amazing how each of our contributions added up to a significant amount and made a big difference in so many lives.

Everyone we help is very appreciative (Carl-Henry is constantly telling me how we changed his life).

I hope to be going to Haiti next month for the elections, so will be able to report back again then.

Thank you again, Sue

(Editor's note: Sue Montgomery, a reporter for the Montreal Gazette, has agreed to return to UU Estrie to give us a "post-election" update on her efforts in Haiti on behalf of earthquake victims.)



Photo by Sue Montgomery, reprinted from a previous newsletter.



Minister's Reflection - Carole's Column

Popular wisdom says you can tell a person's character by the company s/he keeps. James Luther Adams, 20th century Unitarian

theologian, spoke of it in slightly different terms. He talked about "voluntary associations" – how the organizations and causes with which we willingly associate ourselves not only give clues to our identity, but help define us, strongly influencing who we are and what we become.

When it comes to social action, I like to think that we "befriend" certain issues and causes out of who we are, and who we wish to become. This is nowhere more evident than in our Sunday morning services and program themes. Now that we have begun to advertise more widely these days, not just in our newsletter to our membership and in the local news, but also on our newly expanding website and with posters at strategic venues in surrounding villages, wherever we as members live and move and as the sacred saying goes, have our being.

From the diverse Sunday speakers and topics presented in past months, imagine what a visitor or newcomer might learn about UU Estrie, Unitarian Universalism, and who we are, what we stand for. I recommend we all try on that "visitor" hat every now and then, to more easily gauge whether the identity we project is how we wish to be known. In looking back over the past year, I can proudly affirm that we do what any responsible religious community of the 21st century would do, who see ourselves as members of the global community.

What issues and causes, far and near, do we befriend? Our sense of being part of a global community and our consistent interest in events beyond North Hatley is evident in our Sunday themes. In lieu of a social action committee, our Programme Committee brings before us so many diverse issues and concerns, that for me it appears that a huge part of our social action,

beyond what we as individuals or a church agree to promote or fund, is witness and education. For ourselves and the larger community. We witness to ethical, economic and humanitarian concerns as far away as Pakistan (the building of schools), Africa (the HIV/Aids pandemic), South America (the plight of Amerind villages). We educate ourselves about mental illness and hear about the Koran first hand, from a practicing Muslim. We bring the world into our midst and by our openness to the lives and ideas of others, we acknowledge that we are, indeed, part of a "network of mutuality" – to quote reading #584 in our hymnal, words of Martin Luther King.

Our Welcome Statement includes people of all diversities, and our programming reflects the same openness to a wide range of ideas and world views. Visitors to our church might be drawn to us by a certain topic and yet wonder about the spiritual message behind the topic. Sometimes we ourselves might wonder. We may not always be in agreement with the speaker; we may struggle to accept or understand. Perhaps at times we experience radical conflict between our own and the beliefs or world views expressed by the presenter. Our morning worship may raise new questions, or provide new answers. Yet always, the mere fact that we as a religious community have chosen to invite "the other" into our sanctuary, to give them a voice in the context of our worship service, is integral to the spiritual message - a sign that we are committed to living out our vision of an inclusive faith. Our first principle is, above all, "to honour the inherent worth and dignity of every person." Thus do we live our message, and by our "voluntary associations" stand by our principles.

May all be blessed – Rev. Carole

#564 in Singing the Living Tradition

Love is not concerned
with whom you pray
or where you slept
the night you ran away
from home.

Love is concerned
that the beating of your heart
should kill no one. – Alice Walker

Flood relief for Pakistan

Since the world learned of the floods now devastating Pakistan, conditions have worsened dramatically. As of August 23, the Pakistani government estimates that **17.2 million people** are affected by the floods — **more than the Haiti earthquake, the 2005 South Asia earthquake, and the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami combined.**

The growing enormity of this humanitarian disaster has compelled UUSC and the Unitarian Universalist Association to launch our UUSC-UUA Joint Pakistan Flood Relief Fund.

Most recently, rivers flowing from the flooded areas in the northwest have swelled with water and are deluging the Sindh and Punjab provinces in the south. This is sure to have serious long-term implications for all of Pakistan. The fertile Punjab is the breadbasket for a country where a third of its population of 170 million people live below the poverty line.

You can probably find this from www.uusc.org, they did not give a specific site for the fund.

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President:	Keith Baxter keith@uuestrie.ca
Editor:	Lin Jensen Ljensen@ubishops.ca

Minister's Office Hours
Tuesday & Thursday, 2:30 – 4:30 pm
Please respect the Minister's sabbath, Sunday
afternoon and Monday.
For emergency pastoral care, phone:
1. The Minister
2. Sooky Dunton
3. Joyce Booth

This is your newsletter !!!
Next issue of Newsletter is
December 2010

Deadline: November 17.

*Please send photos, or write your
contribution on paper, parchment, or
computer. Send to the newsletter
committee in person or **by upload**
through the church directory. If you
must use email, send to
newsletter@uuestrie.ca.*

Calendar and Schedule

TUES 2 9:30AM GRANNIES WORKSHOP
FRI 5 - SUN 7 EASTERN FALL GATHERING
SUN 7 10:00AM NO SERVICE AT NH
SUN 14 10:00AM SERVICE: REV. CAROLE
TUES 16 7:00PM BOARD MEETING
SUN 21 10:00AM REV. BRENDAN HADASH
TUES 23 7:00PM NO-NAME SMALL GROUP
THUR 25 9:30AM NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE
SUN 28 10:00AM SERVICE: END LIFE ISSUES

Board of Trustees

You have elected this board to take care of
business, please discuss your hopes and concerns
with any member:

Keith Baxter	President
Adele Ernstrom	Vice-President
Mary-Ann McCarron	Secretary
Rachel Garber	Treasurer
Howard Hale	Member at large
Lin Jensen	Member at large



Board Installation, September 26