

nouvelles news

June 2011 juin



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

June 3, 6:30 pm

“Community Supper”

Gala Community Dinner, with music, Friday, June 3, at 6:30 p.m. Fundraising Event. Bring family and friends for fine food, congenial company and mellow music. Tickets: \$20; \$10/child.. BYOB.

June 4, 9 am to 5 pm

Rev. Allison Barrett

“The WOW of Worship”

A one-day workshop on the art of worship: How to make UU worship beautiful and effective, every time. For worship leaders, worship committees, lay leaders, and anyone interested in deepening their understanding and skill in creating good worship services that touch the soul and keep 'em coming back for more. Special guest facilitator: the Reverend Allison Barrett, from Hamilton Ontario. Lunch provided with a \$10 registration cost for lunch.

The number one function of church is worship; we all seek to provide a regular, weekly worship. It behoves us to do it as well as we can.

Billets available for Friday and Saturday night for those who would like. Child care provided as well on Saturday. This event is sponsored by UUEstrie and the Canadian Unitarian Council.

Registration: Rachel Garber: rachel@uuestrie.ca;
Billets: Mary Lynn Ross: 819-842-4177

Note: a complete supper is also available in the church on the Friday night, as we are holding a gala community supper fundraiser at \$20/plate, \$10/child, 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Reservations/tickets in advance.

June 5

Rev. Carole Martignacco

“Whose are we?”

What calls us from beyond ourselves to live a life of goodness and justice? How might we speak of this?

Musician: Jaime Dunton

Coffee Convenor: Phyllis Baxter

Flower Convenor: Sooky Dunton

June 12

Ms. Bethany Knight

“Say goodbye to the world as we know it!”

Citing the Mayan calendar as well as other prophecies, a large number of people are claiming the end times will visit Planet Earth in 2012. Rather than fear this fantastic claim, Bethany Knight proposes we embrace it! "May the world, as we know it, come to an end," she says. "Rather than focusing on the seen highly technological world and all its material riches, isn't it time to focus on the unseen...those precious measures of a life well lived: loving relationships, meaningful contributions to the greater good, a sense of real community?" Rich with fresh stories and lessons gleaned from her winter in Florida and India, Bethany's talk is aimed at lifting us up and reminding us of our inherent goodness.

Service Leader: Carol McKinley

Musician: Mike Matheson

Coffee Convenor: the Mathesons

Flower Convenor: Sooky Dunton

June 19**Mr. Jaime Dunton****“Fathers' Day”**

A service celebrating fatherhood, grandfatherhood, and relations with father figures, coordinated by Jaime Dunton.

Musician: Pat Bird

Coffee Convenor: Sooky Dunton

Flower Convenor: Sooky Dunton

June 26**Ms. Jane Pankovitch****“The Ecstasy and the Irony”**

The soul is satisfied with nothing less than the divine.

For most of us, the life of the spirit is below the surface, and below the surface of our consciousness. But sometimes we experience an epiphany, and our view of life, our experience of life, changes.

Jane Pankovitch is a CEGEP teacher of English language. She is a long-time member, as well as one of our lay chaplains, at UUEstrie.

Service Leader: Rev. Carole Martignacco

Flower Convenor: Sooky Dunton

July 3**Dr. Jaime Crooks****“Five lessons from Job”**

Jaime Crooks is a professor of philosophy at Bishop's University. By this date he will have just completed a stint as Dean of Arts and Science there. This will be his first visit to UUEstrie.

Service Leader: Keith Baxter

Flower Convenor: Sooky Dunton

July 10**Rev. Ken MacLean****“What Are We Looking For?”**

This is our annual Picnic Sunday. After the worship service, to which we invite all our friends from both the Montreal and Lakeshore UU congregations and First Parish in Derby Line VT, we shall adjourn to the Jensen farm in Hatley for a picnic lunch and games. Bring food for your family, or food to share, frisbees and soccer balls, bathing suits, musical instruments. But most of all bring yourselves.

The Reverend Kenneth Torquil MacLean is a favourite 'summer minister' in North Hatley since 1965(!). It is especially gratifying that he can be with us for our picnic Sunday this year. Ken is now Minister of the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Desert, in Rancho Mirage, California. Ken writes:

"WHAT ARE WE LOOKING FOR? Someone asked why people join a church, and after some serious study, a group was able to come back with three single words, and they all began with the same letter. Two of the words surprised me as answers to the original question, and I decided to see where one of those words would take me. The first letter for all three words is H. I have been coming to the church in North Hatley since 1965, and am grateful for the warm welcome I still find, for the sharing of this ministry from Carole, the hospitality of the Duntons, the decades of devotion to the church of people with names like Baxter, Jensen, van Lier, Booth, and Pacaud, and the memories of others, now gone, who invested a chunk of their lives in the community that has been housed in this building. It is like coming home for me. KTM"

We shall also have the pleasure of some very special music on this Sunday from a band called "JAMS", with members Jessica Burpee (vocals, ukulele & bass), Ann Cascarano (vocals & mandolin), Margo Ellis (vocals & guitar), and Shawn Dohring (vocals & guitar). They are all members of the Music Collective of the Montreal Unitarian Church.

Service Leader: Keith Baxter

Musician: JAMS

Coffee Convenor: Debra Fougère

Flower Convenor: Sooky Dunton





Minister's Reflection - Carole's Column

Rev. Carole had intended to send her column from Toronto, inspired by the CUC ACM. However, in a one-way phone message, she said that where she is staying, there is no access to email. She will not be returning before May 30, since after the ACM, she is going to a Ministers Retreat.

So, a holiday from Email! She and presumably all the ministers, have been liberated from such distractions, and able to focus on the present. I would suggest that such a holiday should be taken by each of us. -- Lin

The Arts of Worship

Saturday, June 4 At UUEstrie

A Workshop for all UUs led by the Reverend Allison Barrett, UU minister from Hamilton Ontario. Sponsored by UUEstrie and the Canadian Unitarian Council. \$10 includes lunch. Please register with Rachel Garber in person or at rachel@uuestrie.ca so we can order food. Billeting and child care available.

8:30 – 9:00 am Ingathering and Icebreaker - This is envisioned as a hospitality and meet and greet time with a chance for people to introduce themselves and share their interests and passion for worship with each other

9:00 – 10:30 Arts of Worship, Part 1: Introduction to UU Worship Theory

This first workshop introduces the theory of effective and moving worship, creating basic "liturgy" (flow), how and where to find great worship resources

10:30 – 11:00 Working Break (including handouts)

11:00 – 12:30 Our Friends the Hymnals - the role and power of music in worship, how to use the hymnals to create great worship; small group exercises on service design and music in worship

12:30 – 1:30 Lunch and Free Time - Worshipping in Nature!

1:30 – 3:00 Arts of Worship Part 3 The Service Leader's Craft, Creating Sacred Space, Practicum in Worship Leading Skills

3:00 – 3:30 Break Small Group Work

3:30 – 5:00 Arts of Worship Part 4 – Putting it All Together

Small Groups present their "services", time for questions, answers and reflections, wrap up and closing worship

Plus : Test your stamina (!) or, if you can't make it for the day, just come on out to the **Creative Writing for Worship Workshop** after supper, **6:30 - 8:30 pm** (open to all), also animated by Allison.

Contemporary Closing Worship **8:30 – 9:00 pm**

Volunteer a bed: Can you offer a bed Friday and/or Saturday, June 3-4, for someone attending WOW from another church? If so, Mary-Lynn would love to hear from you (819-842-4177).

Denominational affairs

If you are a member, you get the Canadian Unitarian newsletter. On-line readers can access current and past issues at <http://www.cuc.ca/newsletter/canu.htm>

Gabriella Brand wins poetry contest

A poem by our friend Gabriella is one of the winning entries in the New Haven CT Free Public Library's annual Poetry Contest. Each poem was judged the best in its category: Youth, Senior and Elder, and the poets read their works April 16 at the downtown branch of the library.

SENIOR CATEGORY WINNER : Gabriella (Gail) Brand, New Haven, CT

Gabriella reports: This was fun.....even if I was in the 'elder' category!

She will be happy to have us publish it once it has appeared in the *New Haven Review*.

She also writes, "I look forward to seeing you soon."

Here and There

UU Estrie gets lots of email from the wide world, asking us to put things in our newsletter. Here are some of them. Please let the editors know whether you value reading these items or not.

Children's Camps

UNICAMP, www.unicampofontario.ca

Just a reminder that there is still space in children's camps that run the first three weeks of July. Please check our website at www.unicampofontario.ca if you've not visited Unicamp before.

FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS - Unicamp is the perfect place for families to meet and August is our month for families and individuals

If you are coming to Toronto for CUC's ACM, why not include a visit to Unicamp. We will be open the week after the conference.

Make this a summer to remember and experience your Unitarian Universalist Camp and Conference Centre in southern Ontario. This beautiful camp belongs to all Unitarians and like-minded people.

Please contact Wanda Gordon, Administrative Manager for Unicamp for information, questions and to register. admin@unicampofontario.ca or 519-822-6353.

Unicamp and the mega quarry

At a meeting in the little municipality of Hornings Mill in a small, unaccessible building,

Highland Companies held their mandated information session. There were lots and lots of people there, more than the building could hold, and more than 50 Unitarians, many arriving on buses. Highland Companies had two floors of displays about the positive aspects of the mega project. The people there to provide information did not know the answers to the questions asked. It was, in all, a very disappointed and unsatisfying information session.

This issue is very important to Unicamp as we are less than 10 k away, but it is also an issue for everyone. The Aggregate Resources Act under which the application is filed does not require an Environmental Assessment. This first application is for almost 2,400 acres more than 200 feet below the water table – Highlands has purchased almost 8,000 acres in the area. In a fact sheet Highlands had available they said that no one downstream will be affected. Almost every quarry affects the water around it. They say that the 600 million litres of water they have to pump every day is less than the existing water lost through evaporation and by vegetation. They really do think we are all dumb.

Unicamp's water comes from many, many miles away. If the underground springs that flow to Unicamp are stopped by this mega quarry then Unicamp won't have water.

So, let's not be dumb. This is an issue of social justice and something that Unitarians should take on. The laws need to be changed. How can a company like this come into a small community, buy up huge tracks of land and make such changes without an environmental assessment.

Now that the time to write objection letters has passed Unitarians should focus on the whole issue of quarries and how they are licensed.

From UUSC:

The Human Right to Water Achieves First Legislative Victory in California

On April 26, 2011, following moving testimony from 75 water-justice advocates, the campaign for the human right to water in California overcame its first legislative hurdle. The new human-right-to water bill (AB 685) passed with an overwhelming margin out of the Water, Parks, and Wildlife Committee.

From the recent ACFAS conference at UdeShrebrooke

Globalisation, écologie et spiritualité

L'humanité au seuil de la spiritualité écologique

Sherbrooke, le 10 mai 2011 – La crise environnementale confronte les humains à une conversion sans précédent. Lors de la conférence qu'il prononcera aujourd'hui, le théologien Louis Vaillancourt de l'Université de Sherbrooke s'attèlera à démontrer que l'humain est en train de se défaire de sa compréhension ségrégationniste du monde, rompant avec des siècles d'une vision où l'homme occupait une place dominante, autonome, surpuissante.

Selon le chercheur, l'humanité se voit maintenant forcée, pour sa propre survie, d'adopter une vision unitaire et communautaire de son vaste milieu de vie. L'humain serait-il voué au même destin que ce Jake Sully, personnage principal du film *Avatar*? Ce militaire brisé a dû soudainement apprendre à vivre au sein d'un peuple autochtone, en complète osmose avec son milieu nature.



Vers un changement de paradigme

Vice-doyen et professeur à la Faculté de théologie et d'études religieuses, Louis Vaillancourt rappelle que l'écologie, qui signifie «science de la maison», a pour but de comprendre les interrelations des éléments vivants et non vivants qui constituent l'écosystème Terre. Par les multiples sciences auxquelles elle fait appel, l'écologie amène à prendre conscience non seulement de l'incroyable complexité de la nature, mais aussi

que le monde est «un», et que l'humain fait partie d'un tout.

Ainsi, les problématiques comme la destruction de la couche d'ozone, la pollution des mers et les changements climatiques, qui sont d'ordre planétaire, nous forcent à réaliser d'une manière radicale que tous les constituants de la planète sont interdépendants. « Cette conscience de la globalité fait entrevoir un «nouveau monde», estime le spécialiste de la théologie écologique. Prenez en exemple les structures d'État, telles que nous les connaissons : elles sont désormais inaptes à prendre en charge la dimension globale de la crise écologique. »

La conscience écologique, appel spirituel de notre temps

L'écologie, affirme Louis Vaillancourt, est dorénavant plus qu'une science : c'est littéralement une nouvelle façon de penser, et de vivre. C'est une mouvance de fond dans la culture de l'humanité, qui place les hommes au seuil d'une spiritualité nouvelle, la spiritualité écologique. « Jusqu'ici, la spiritualité s'est définie en fonction des religions, fait-il remarquer. Or, la spiritualité contemporaine est en voie de prendre un nouveau visage, avec ou sans référence à un être absolu. »

Cette spiritualité moderne doit être comprise comme un processus d'intégration, qui accorde une place essentielle à l'interrelation de tous les éléments du cosmos. « L'expérience du tout des choses et de leur limite est, fondamentalement, une expérience religieuse, indique le chercheur. Un tel sens de l'appartenance peut d'ailleurs être repéré dans de nombreuses traditions religieuses anciennes, d'où un certain retour en force des spiritualités autochtones. »

La prise de conscience récente que notre système biologique a ses limites constitue un point de non retour. Elle oblige l'humanité à remettre en question jusqu'aux principes qui ont servi le développement de l'Occident, et à entrevoir une manière plus inclusive, planétaire, de comprendre la communauté.

Le réalisateur James Cameron n'avait-il pas dit, d'ailleurs, que l'idée principale de son film *Avatar* était qu'il « nous interroge sur le fait que tout est lié, les êtres humains les uns aux autres et chacun de nous à la Terre »?

Rev. Carole contributed this, from a «Joke of the Day» website.

If Noah Built an Ark in 2011

And lo, in the year 2011, the Lord came unto Noah, who was now living in the United States, and said:

"Once again, the earth has become wicked and over-populated, and I see the end of all flesh before me."

"Build another Ark and save two of every living thing along with a few good humans."

He gave Noah the blueprints, saying, "You have 6 months to build the ark before I will start the unending rain for 40 days and 40 nights."

Six months later, the Lord looked down and saw Noah weeping in his yard, but there was no ark.

"Noah! I'm about to start the rain! Where is the ark?"

"Forgive me, Lord," begged Noah, "but things have changed."

"I needed a building permit."

"I've been arguing with the inspector about the need for a sprinkler system."

"My neighbors claim that I've violated the neighborhood zoning laws by building the ark in my yard and exceeding the height limitations. We had to go to the Development Appeal Board for a decision."

"Then the Department of Transportation demanded a bond be posted for the future costs of moving power lines and other overhead obstructions, to clear the passage for the ark's move to the sea. I told them that the sea would be coming to us, but they would hear nothing of it."



"Getting the wood was another problem. There's a ban on cutting local trees in order to save the spotted owl."

"I tried to convince the environmentalists that I needed the wood to save the owls, but no go!"

"When I started gathering the animals, an animal rights group sued me. They insisted that I was confining wild animals against their will. They argued the accommodations were too restrictive, and it was cruel and inhumane to put so many animals in a confined space."

"Then the EPA ruled that I couldn't build the ark until they'd conducted an environmental impact study on your proposed flood."

"I'm still trying to resolve a complaint with the Human Rights Commission on how many minorities I'm supposed to hire for my building crew."

"Immigration and Naturalization are checking the green-card status of most of the people who want to work."

"The trades unions say I can't use my sons. They insist I have to hire only Union workers with ark-building experience."

"To make matters worse, the IRS seized all my assets, claiming I'm trying to leave the country illegally with endangered species."

"So, forgive me, Lord, but it would take at least 10 years for me to finish this Ark."

Suddenly, the skies cleared, the sun began to shine, and a rainbow stretched across the sky.



Noah looked up in wonder and asked, "You mean you're not going to destroy the world?"

"No," said the Lord. "The government beat me to it."

Newsletter published by: Unitarian Universalist Church of North Hatley l'eglise unitarienne universaliste de North Hatley	
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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. Rev. Carole
2. Sooky Dunton
3. Joyce Booth



Calendar and Schedule

FRI	3	6:30PM	COMMUNITY SUPPER
SAT	4	9:00AM	WOW OF WORSHIP
		6:30PM	CREATIVE WRITING
WED	8	9:30AM	PROGRAMME COMMITTEE
		6:30PM	BOARD MEETING
SUN	5	10:00AM	SERVICE: REV. CAROLE
SUN	12	10:00AM	SERVICE: BETHANY KNIGHT
SUN	19	10:00AM	SERVICE: FATHER'S DAY
TUES	21	9:30AM	NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE
		7:00PM	ANNUAL MEETING
SUN	26	10:00AM	SERVICE: JANE PANKOVITCH

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
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Howard Hale	Member at large
Lin Jensen	Member at large



This is your newsletter !!!

Next issue of Newsletter is July-August 2011

Deadline: **June 20.**

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.