

# nouvelles news

March 2013 mars



## 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

**March 3**

**Rev. Brendan Hadash**

**“Gratitude”**

It has been said that if we are reduced to but one prayer, a prayer of thanks will suffice. This Sunday Rev. Brendan Hadash, former minister here in North Hatley and now minister at the UU congregation in St. Johnsbury VT, will speak on the human need to express gratitude and the wonderful effects it has on the human spirit.

Downstairs, in Stoddard Hall

Service Leader: Keith Baxter

Coffee Convenor: Janet Cowan Weber

Flower Convenor: Sooky Dunton

**March 10**

**Rev. Carole Martignacco**

**“Beyond Belief - A New Universalism”**

**Bring A Friend Sunday!**

Ours is a living tradition, by which we mean that it survives by adapting to change. Somewhere between evolution and prophetic vision, our future calls to us. Bring a friend -we will share a question and answer dialogue following the sermon.

**Please note: Service Leader Training**

Immediately after Coffee Hour - If you have ever wished to lead a service, come see what's involved. We welcome you to engage in our shared ministry on Sundays.

Downstairs, in Stoddard Hall

Musician: Laurent Hubert

Coffee Convenor: Katt

Flower Convenor: Sooky Dunton

**March 17**

**Dr. Heather Ross**

**“Equitarian Initiative: Aid to working animals in the third world”**

Dr. Heather Ross, a local townshippier who has been an equine veterinarian in this area for 27 years, will give a talk and slide presentation on her work in Mexico with Equitarian Initiative, an organization which sends vets to third world countries to provide veterinary care to working equids, i.e. donkeys, horses and mules.

Downstairs, in Stoddard Hall

Service Leader: Kevin Jensen

Coffee Convenor: Carol McKinley

Flower Convenor: Sooky Dunton

**YOU ARE INVITED –**

***the honour of your presence is requested!***

**March 23, 10 am – 2pm ++**

**Ms. Kelly McDowell**

**“Living into Our Vision Retreat”**

Kelly McDowell, CUC congregational development staff, will lead us on this Saturday in a session designed to think about congregational growth. All members and friends are strongly encouraged to join us for this special congregational retreat to explore the nuts and bolts of realizing the vision articulated in our visioning work last year. We will be exploring and creating new ways of working together and hope to find our own way of having many hands make light and joy. Expect to have fun. Light lunch provided.

Downstairs, in Stoddard Hall

**March 24**

**Ms. Kelly McDowell**

**“Living into Our Vision”**

Kelly McDowell is a Canadian Unitarian Council resource person for Congregational Development, working with congregations in the CUC's Eastern region, which stretches from Kingston ON to St. John's NL. This will be her fourth visit to North Hatley. This morning she will present the work accomplished at the congregational retreat the day before, where we will have explored the nuts and bolts of realizing our vision for UUEstrie. How do we find our own way of making many hands create light and joy? Is it possible to do more with less?

Downstairs, in Stoddard Hall

Service Leader: Keith Baxter

Coffee Convenor: Sooky Dunton

Flower Convenor: Sooky Dunton

**March 31**

**Rev. Carole Martignacco**

**“Easter Flower Communion”**

We celebrate the renewal of spring and the sacred blossoming of earth - and with an abundance of flowers also celebrate the living legacy of **Nancy Pacaud** on her 100th birthday.



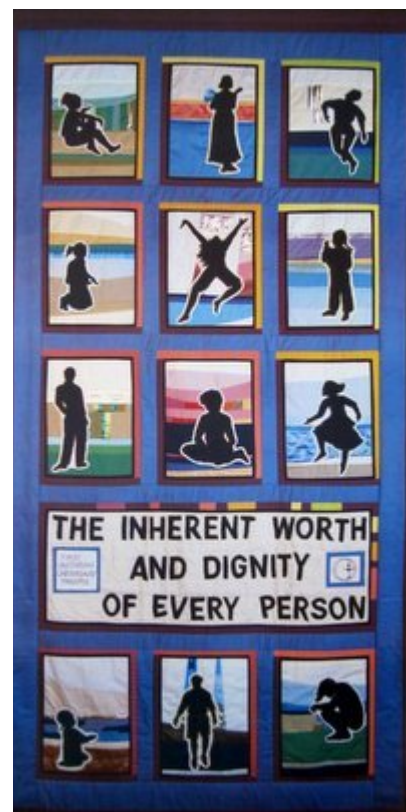
Downstairs, in Stoddard Hall

Coffee Convenor: Gudrun Brand

Flower Convenor: Sooky Dunton

***CELEBRATE THE GOOD NEWS!***

We are the proud recipients of a \$1000 grant from the New York Universalists, in support of our efforts to become more bilingual in translating both website and worship resources, so that language is not a barrier to welcoming all who seek with us a spiritual home.. Thanks to Rachel and the UU Estrie Board, along with Rev. Carole, for your work in submitting this grant proposal.



**Knitting every Tuesday**

A warm, cozy afternoon and a cup of tea with Phyllis Baxter and friends every Tuesday from 1 until 3 pm.

Bring projects large and small. Menders and crocheters, and non-knitters also welcome. Conversation and company are free. For more info, call Phyllis or Rev. Carole.



### Minister's Reflection - Carole's Column

*"By their groups, ye  
shall know them."*

- James Luther Adams

Since earliest times, the strongest need of our kind, beyond food and physical safety, has always been the need to belong. We are social beings, in which the social is not separate from the spiritual, but a matter of our very survival. Children isolated and deprived of a clear sense of belonging fail to thrive. As adults, beyond the family circle our belonging has many layers. Over time, we each may join multiple communities, or what James Luther Adams called "voluntary associations." The communities we choose to associate with allow us to express ourselves and our deepest values.

A colleague Rev. Julie Stoneberg once gave a sermon during my visit to Peterborough in which she began with an invitation to pull out your purse or wallet and count the cards you carry on your person whenever you are out and about in the world. Beyond the driver's license and legal IDs, there may be work-related cards representing a professional association, a workplace keycard, various clubs and discount shopping cards, one with hole-punches from the local coffee shop, organ donor or Medic Alert cards, cards that say: "In case of an accident, please call..." Not to forget bank cards, VISA or MASTERCARD – to whom many of us belong in no small measure. We are known by our memberships.

Perhaps along with all those important voluntary associations you claim, you carry a small purple and white card with a flaming chalice image on the front, and the Unitarian Universalist principles printed in either English or French. If so, can you remember when was the last time you showed that card? If not, I invite you to celebrate your belonging by becoming a "card-carrying" member of this voluntary community.

To be sure, it's not in our nature to flaunt our faith; yet in our fear of evangelizing, we seldom find legitimate ways to share this religion that

means so much to us. That's why I am declaring "Bring A Friend Sunday" here at UU Estrie on March 10th. Our theme that day will be defining a 21st century Universalism relevant to our times. Think of all with whom you associate, those organizations and causes in which you invest money or time, or volunteer your precious life energies. Who among your many friends, family and associates would you identify as sharing your values, your longing for justice, your dreams for a better world? Invite them to join us Sunday the 10th – as a way of sharing who you are and what you most deeply value. We'll have a question and answer period after the service and extend our warmest welcome to your friends.

Today belonging in religious terms is no longer determined, as in centuries past, by whatever system of belief you happened to be born into. We UUs call ourselves the "choosing" – not the "chosen" ones. And just as there was a time in my life – and I suspect, in many of yours - when Unitarian Universalism as a choice was unknown, I do firmly believe there may be a few others out there searching for somewhere that feels like home and a faith tribe to which they can belong.

- Rev. Carole



*"True religion is about what we love, not about what we think. True religion is about what you and I hold sacred. The practice of true religion is faithfulness to what we love."* - Rev. Peter Morales, in *Religion Beyond Belief*

*"If we are to fly free, we must learn to let go, and trust that when we do, we will be caught."* - Rev. Diane Dowgiert, in *The Flying Trapeze and the Fine Art of Freedom*



### President's Message

The always surprising outcome to me, on returning home after being away, is seeing familiar things in a new light, sometimes with a better perspective or a different one.

Returning from the Florida Keys and Miami Beach with some of my children and grandchildren, treating me to an extravagant birthday celebration with them, was a very special treat and reminded me of how fortunate I am. It was an eye opener, as well to see the extravagances of particular places and people in that part of the world, although mostly the tourists who party in restaurants, boutiques, any sort of play such as sky diving and all sorts of expensive hobbies. I have a difficult time reconciling that with knowing that there are many in this world that suffer from poverty, war and all the negative offerings for which this vacation was not. And the big question of reconciling these two colliding thoughts.

- Sooky Dunton

### Denominational affairs

If you are a member, you get the Canadian Unitarian newsletter, preferably by email. On-line readers can access current and past issues at <http://cuc.ca/the-canadian-unitarian/>

As well, the monthly ENews is available at <http://cuc.ca/enews/>

**CUSJ** (Canadian Unitarians for Social Justice) invites all supporters of end-of-life choice to attend a rally in support of medical-aid-in-dying on Monday, March 4, 2013, in Vancouver. Our timing coincides with the start of the BC Court of Appeal hearing for the Carter Case (which included Gloria Taylor) and will be held on the NW corner of the Courthouse starting at 9:00 a.m. From there we will go into the court house for the start of the hearing at 10:00.

We are pleased to join a multi-group coalition in support of end-of-life choice including members of BC Civil Liberties, Farewell Foundation for the Right to Die, BC Humanist

Association, the Unitarian Church, Raging Grannies, the Council of Canadians, and Centre for Inquiry.

*Frances Deverell, CUSJ*

"There are three rules of dealing with all those who come to us: 1, Kindness; 2, Kindness; 3, Kindness." - Fulton J. Sheen

"The smallest act of kindness is worth more than the grandest intention." - Oscar Wilde

"A part of kindness consists in loving people more than they deserve. - Joseph Joubert



"Out beyond ideas of wrong-doing and right doing, there is a field. I'll meet you there." - Rumi



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Minister's Office Hours  
Wednesday & 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

SUN 3 10:00AM SERVICE: GRATITUDE  
TUES 5 9:30AM GRANNIES WORKSHOP  
WED 6 6:30PM BOARD MEETING  
SUN 10 10:00AM SERVICE: BRING A FRIEND  
SUN 17 10:00AM SERVICE: DONKEY RESCUE  
TUES 19 7 PM SMALL GROUP MINISTRY  
SAT 23 10AM-2PM VISIONING WORKSHOP  
SUN 24 10:00AM SERVICE: LIVING VISION  
MARDI 26 19H30 CERCLE GAULOIS  
WED 27 7:00PM NO-NAME SMALL GROUP  
SUN 31 10:00AM SERVICE: EASTER FLOWER

### Board of Trustees

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

|                   |                                     |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Sooky Dunton      | President                           |
| Keith Baxter      | Past President,<br>acting Treasurer |
| Adele Ernstrom    | Secretary                           |
| Mary-Ann McCarron | Vice-President                      |
| Heather Lewis     | Member at large                     |
| Mary-Lynn Ross    | Member at large                     |
| Lin Jensen        | Member at large                     |

This is your newsletter !!!

Next issue of Newsletter is April 2013

Deadline: **March 24.**

*Please send photos, or write your contribution on paper, parchment, or computer. Give to the newsletter committee in person or send by email to **newsletter@uuestrie.ca**.*

### Cleanup days in April

Coming up, two cleanup Saturdays ,  
**April 6 and 13**, from 9 am, bring a brown bag lunch.