

nouvelles news

June - July 2015 juin - juillet



Events these Months (see p. 2)

All Sunday services start at 10:30 am unless otherwise specified.
We have an active children's program during our Sunday service, at which all children are warmly welcome

AGM = A Grand Meeting

The board of trustees announces UUEstrie's Annual General Meeting on **Sunday, June 28**, after church, at about noon, in Stoddard Hall. Please join us for a big bowl of soup, bread and cheese, and trimmings. We'll look at the results of a lot of hard work over the past year, especially to get our congregation on better financial footing through fundraising, investments, and the parsonage. We'll look forward to the coming year. We'll vote on a small bylaw amendment or two. And we'll have one new board member to elect.

Please ink this Great Meeting into your agenda. All are welcome! Members will receive an agenda and supporting documents at least two weeks in advance of the meeting.

Lunch will be served up by your board members: Keith Baxter, Debra Fougere, Rachel Garber, Heather Lewis, Joey Marosi, Mary Lynn Ross, and Rev. Carole Martignacco. We care about our little community, and we thank you for caring too.

June 5, 11:00 am

Ms. Claire Marchand

"Autumn Genius: The genius of Bennett & Galway"

The final in a series of programs consisting of a talk (in French this time) and mini concert focused on composer/musicians who flourished in their later years. William Bennett and James Galway are geniuses of the flute. Followed by a light lunch. Free for seniors over 60; a small charge for others. Series produced by Pauline Farrugia.

Service Leader: Pauline Farrugia

Musician: Claire Marchand

Whither the Newsletter?

When I first became editor, the newsletter was our main means of communication. We printed 80 copies and Nancy addressed and mailed them to all who did not pick up a copy in church.

Times have changed. We now have a website, and most people read the newsletter on their computers.

The program schedule is on the website, in English and French, and is kept more up-to-date there -- witness the May newsletter, which was silent about the last two Sundays. In addition, Rachel sends weekly emails to all who request them.

In another vein, monthly publication is based on the advice, "Act the size you want to be." A church our size typically has 3 or 4 newsletters a year, full of news and members' reflections, possibly on a particular theme, and also clerical staff.

Recently, your board decided that Rev. Carole's efforts should be directed elsewhere than the newsletter, and Adele is often away, which has left the task up to me.

Therefore, I believe that we should move to 4 or 5 issues per year, and make more use of our well set up website, by encouraging frequent posts. These are categorized under headings such as "Sundays",

"Minister's Messages" and "President's Posts." I would like the AGM to make a decision on this matter.

Lin Jensen

June 7

Dr. Lawrence Mysak
“Hockey Sticks, Outdoor Rinks, and
Climate Change”

Lawrence Mysak is Emeritus Professor of Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences at McGill. He notes that Northern Hemisphere warming during the past 50 years has had a significant impact on the length of the outdoor skating season in Canada. Dr. Mysak will review climate change over the history of the Earth, the relatively large and rapid global warming that has occurred during the industrial revolution, possible consequences of global warming, and what we can do to slow it down.

Service Leader: Keith Baxter

Musician: Keith Baxter

June 14

Ms. Guylaine Cliche
“Helping the Homeless”

Guylaine Cliche is a Sherbrooke humanitarian with a passion for empowering homeless women, getting them off the streets and into higher education, helping them take control of their lives. She has written a book and produced a DVD and will share interviews with young women and speak about her new foundation, The Compassion Clan. The offering will be for The Compassion Clan.

Service Leader: Carole Martignacco

June 21

Various personal testimonies
“Honouring Our Fathers”

A participatory service where all are welcome to share a thought, an anecdote, a prayer, for a father figure in their lives. Bring a photo or other artifact to share, if you like. We shall try to acknowledge the many dimensions of fatherhood, and wish to welcome especially single and co-parenting fathers on this day.

Service Leader: Keith Baxter

June 28

Tadhg McDonald-Jensen
“Growing Up with Two Moms”

Some children whose parents separate and divorce later find themselves with two moms, as their birth father finds a new partner or wife. Tadhg and his brother Ciaran, however, have had their two moms since birth, with both Lisa and Lita (who are their moms) and no father, mentioned on their birth certificates! What is it

like, growing up with two moms? Tadhg will share his experience with us.

Service Leader: Keith Baxter

July 1

“A Float in the Parade”

Come to the annual Canada Day parade and celebration in the village of Hatley, where the theme this year is 'Canadian Dreams', and where our UUEstrie will have a float in the parade. You'll have to come early to get parked in time for the 11am start. Fun and games, food, music, events, booths, all fill out the day.

July 5

Picnic Sunday

Our service begins with coffee and donuts from 9:30 am, followed by the worship service in our sanctuary at 10:30 am, followed by a picnic lunch, swimming, and games at the home of Joey Marosi, across the lake from the church. All welcome, particularly our sisters and brethren from Montréal and Derby Line.

Service Leader: Keith Baxter

July 12

Ms. Bethany Knight
“Suffering + Compassion =
Enlightenment: the Bumpy Road to
Transcendence”

Bethany Knight is a popular annual visitor to our pulpit. She now lives with her husband in Connecticut, but is still connected to Vermont. She has preached to congregations in Florida, Vermont and Quebec for a number of years.

Service Leader: Keith Baxter

July 19

Rev. Ken MacLean
“TBA”

Is this the 50th anniversary already? Rev. Ken MacLean has been a regular summer minister here at UUEstrie since 1965! He shares his time between California and London, England. Welcome back, Ken!

Service Leader: Carole Martignacco

July 26

Ms. Jan Draper
“TBA”

Service Leader: Joey Marosi

Happy Endings Have Begun

Are you all set for an ending of life that happens the way you choose? About 20 people attended the first session at Uplands last week, on assisted dying. Coming up are four different life-changing topics:

On **Monday, June 1, at 9:45 a.m.** is a workshop on End-of-life Legal Issues. Notary Tim Leonard will talk about wills, incapacity mandates, and more. At Uplands Cultural Centre, 9 Speid Street. Free. Pre-register at 819-842-4146 or info@uuestrrie.ca by May 29. www.uuestrrie.ca.

On Monday, **June 8**, at 9:45 a.m. is a workshop on Green Burials, Dying at Home, and Family-centred Funerals. Jacques Laberge, funeral director and past co-owner of Cass Funeral Homes. At Uplands Cultural Centre, 9 Speid Street. Free. Pre-register at 819-842-4146 or info@uuestrrie.ca by June 5.

On Monday, **June 15**, at 9:45 a.m. is a workshop on Bequests: How to give to your favourite charity AND leave all your money to your children. Financial advisor Alain Lévesque of DeVimy Group. At Uplands Cultural Centre, 9 Speid Street. Free. Pre-register at 819-842-4146 or info@uuestrrie.ca by June 12.

On Monday, **June 22**, at 9:45 a.m. Last Words workshop: How to plan your own memorial or celebration of life. Rev. Carole Martignacco of UUEstrie. At Uplands Cultural Centre, 9 Speid Street. Free. Pre-register at 819-842-4146 or info@uuestrrie.ca by June 19.

Questions? Contact Rachel at 819-300-2374 or Rachel@uuestrrie.ca.

This series is made possible by support from the CUC's Northern Lights program and the West Fund.

Summer Solstice Celebration

They're all just having a great time - Phyllis Baxter, Rachel Garber, Kevin Jensen, Heather Lewis, Joey Marosi, Carole Martignacco, Carol McKinley, Uma Nigam, David Turner, and Donnie Rittenhouse. And others too! They're getting ready for the splendid Summer Solstice Celebration that is planned for **Friday, June 19, at 6 p.m.**

It's a supper and a silent auction. It's chicken plus vegetarian and gluten-free options. It's a silent auction of services and other classy items. Come and enjoy good food, background music and a festive celebration of the summer solstice. Door prize. But before that, you can get in on the fun, too. Team leader Joey Marosi says she needs auction items, people to help with some of the cooking, and people to buy tickets and gather their friends to come celebrate together.

All for the benefit of UUEstrie and to help victims of the Nepal earthquakes – 10 percent of the proceeds are earmarked for USC-Canada. That is a Unitarian Universalist organization that has been working for decades with local farmers in the Rasuwa region of Nepal. This region has been hit hard by the earthquakes, with serious damage to property and livestock. Our donation will help restore family farms and rebuild farmhouses. For more information, visit <http://usc-canada.org/>.

But it's also for the fun of it. If you would like to get tickets for you and your friends, contact Heather Lewis at 819-564-0189 or curlycoat@videotron.ca. For each \$30 you give her, she'll give you one sweet ticket. Space is limited, so act now!

Spirit And Social Justice

The "confluence" lecture is not just another pretty name. It is a talk that Rev. Stephen Atkinson gave at the CUC's recent conference. He entitled it Spirit: The Necessary Foundation of Social Justice, and he talked about the brain as our spiritual organ, virtue as our spiritual goal, and justice as our spiritual imperative.

The talk is intriguing and inspiring. It engages both the mind and the heart. It was another highlight for me of my time in Ottawa. You can listen to it too. At this link - <http://cuc.ca/acm-2015/confluence-lecture/> - you can read a transcript, download a PDF of it, or listen to it on audio MP3.

-Rachel



Minister's Reflection - Carole's Column

"The more often we see the things around us - even the beautiful and wonderful things - the more they become invisible to us. That is why we often take for granted the beauty of this

world: the flowers, the trees, the birds, the clouds - even those we love. Because we see things so often, we see them less and less." ~ Joseph B. Wirthlin (fr. Brainy Quotes)

What a beautiful spring we've had - all two weeks of it! Now the North Hatley landscape thrives in all its glory - the lake shimmering silver with sunlight, flowers from soil and branch flourishing, trees and shrubs leafing out in countless shades of green. All the colours!

Those of us who attended the Canadian Unitarian Council Annual Conference and Meeting in Ottawa came back to a sudden summer. My Ottawa visit was extended with the 5-day UUMOC (Ministers of Canada) meeting. I returned just in time to dust of the grill, put out some deck chairs, and put some plants into the ground.

It's not the time to leave this beauty now, but you should know of my plans to be away from UU Estrie for a brief two weeks of rest and renewal from May 30 to June 12th. I'll be back in time to lead the service on June 14th. Meanwhile, I hear of others gearing up for travels afar and family visits in all four directions. Go safely, dear friends - and don't forget to gather a small sample of water from wherever you wander, for our merging of the waters communion ceremony in early September will come soon enough.

BEAUTY is the word of the month in our theme-based series. And while there's hardly a season in our corner of the world when that word does not apply, it's particularly easy to think of ways to explore and celebrate this theme in so many forms amidst all this abundant growth and blossoming. I am reminded of the Navaho Blessing: *In beauty I walk, beauty behind me, beauty before me, beauty all around me. In beauty it is begun, in beauty I walk, in beauty it is finished.*

We who have spent the long cold months together have something to say of the gifts of nature at this time. As you go about your day, I invite you to explore this theme with the following questions: How many ways can you find to savour this amazing world? What calls to you with its beauty, demands that you look up and take notice. How, through all your more than five senses, does your reverence and awe expand with the ordinary wonders of everyday? And when you've thoroughly exhausted all that beauty in nature, what about the human spirit? What qualities do you find enchanting and exquisite in others? What about music, the arts, and the whole world of words - what beauty would you notice and name? Is there a particular kind of beauty that haunts your spirit, unforgettable, holding memories of people and places, times past?

Some might wish to keep a journal, just for this month, entering each day's experience of beauty, naming the "moments of being" in the presence of beauty that runs like a thread of birdsong through your waking hours. One summer my daughters and I went on a scavenger hunt for beauty, looking for signs in our own backyard and collecting all the countless little ways beauty touched us, close to home, that we often take for granted. Little things - the markings on a stone, a tiny weed, a ladybug beetle, the dried wing of a moth. Imagine an Earth without this extravagance that ambushes our spirits, over and over again. Awareness of beauty can become a spiritual discipline where, in recognizing its many faces, collecting images and impressions, our appreciation and gratitude is magnified. I leave you with the words of Ralph Waldo Emerson: *"Never lose an opportunity of seeing anything beautiful, for beauty is God's handwriting."*

May you walk in beauty all month, and know yourselves infinitely blessed!

~ Rev. Carole

Denominational affairs

If you are a member, you probably get the Canadian Unitarian newsletter by email. Current and past issues can be found on-line at <http://cuc.ca/the-canadian-unitarian/>. You can also request a paper copy there.

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



From Burundi With Heart

Attending the annual conference and meeting (ACM) of the Canadian Unitarian Council was a rich experience. Lots of friendly people! Some really dynamic young people! Some gripping presentations!

One of the high points for me: Attending a workshop by the International Council of Unitarians and Universalists. The ICUU has member groups in 33 countries. We had a skype conversation with Rev. Ndagijimana Fulgence direct from the Unitarian church in Burundi.

This country is on the verge of exploding. An attempted coup failed a few weeks ago, and now the country is practically paralyzed with demonstrations against the third term of the current president. Police have killed five people to date, and wounded dozens. A genocide is feared. People are fleeing their homes and taking refuge in neighbouring Rwanda.

Rev. Fulgence writes: “The church is seeking to arrange a temporarily shelter in a place where it is relatively safer for people to stay. The church will provide food, water, medicines for members in the shelter and those in other places. The church is appealing for funds to cover these needs and the needs that will come up in the next few days and weeks. We know we are not alone and thank you very much for your support.”

For more information, go to <http://www.icuu.net/>.

-Rachel



Mary Lynn Ross receives UUEstrie's Blue Ribbon plaque from Bruce Knotts, director of the UU-UNO (Unitarian Universalist - United Nations Office) and Allison Hess, Envoy Coordinator.



Our banner showcased along with all the other banners of congregations from across Canada.

Newsletter published by: Unitarian Universalist Church of North Hatley l'eglise unitarienne universaliste de North Hatley	
Address:	201 rue Main North Hatley QC J0B 2C0, Canada
Telephone:	(819) 842-4146
E-mail address:	info@uuestrie.ca
Church Website:	http://www.uuestrie.ca
Minister:	The Reverend Carole Martignacco revcarole@uuestrie.ca cmartignacco@gmail.com 819-212-7150 (cell) 819-842-1387 (home)
President:	Rachel Garber rachel@uuestrie.ca
Lay Chaplains:	Jane Pankovitch Keith Baxter
Ceremonies Coordinator:	ceremonies@uuestrie.ca
Religious Education:	Rh�ea Merson re@uuestrie.ca
Editor:	Lin Jensen newsletter@uuestrie.ca

Minister's Office Hours
Thursdays from 2:30 to 5:00 p.m.
Please respect the Minister's sabbath, Sunday
afternoon and Monday.
For emergency pastoral care, phone:
1. Rev. Carole
2. Mary Lynn Ross



The history of Ottawa, from the viewpoint of the Spirit of Life, spanning millennia., at the CUC annual conference.

Calendar and Schedule

JUNE

MON 1 9:45AM LEGAL ISSUES
 FRI 5 11:00AM AUTUMN GENUIS
 SUN 7 10:30AM SERVICE: CLIMATE CHG.
 MON 8 9:45AM GREEN BURIALS
 SUN 14 10:30AM SERVICE: HOMELESS
 MON 15 9:45AM BEQUESTS
 FRI 19 6:00PM SOLSTICE SUPPER/AUCTION
 SUN 21 10:30AM SERVICE: FATHERS DAY
 MON 22 9:45AM LAST WORDS
 SUN 28 10:30AM SERVICE: TWO MOMS
 12 NOON AGM

JULY

WED 1 PARADE IN HATLEY
 SUN 5 10:30AM SERVICE: AND PICNIC
 SUN 12 10:30AM SERVICE: BETHANY KNIGHT
 SUN 19 10:30AM SERVICE: KEN MACLEAN
 SUN 26 10:30AM SERVICE: JAN DRAPER

Board of Trustees

You have elected this board to take care of business. The Board generally meets on the **third Tuesday** of each month at 1:30pm, but check for changes. Please discuss your hopes and concerns with any member:

Rachel Garber	President
Heather Lewis	Vice-President
Joey Marosi	Secretary
Keith Baxter	Treasurer
Mary-Lynn Ross	Member at large
Debra Foug�ere	Member at large

This is your newsletter !!!

Next issue of Newsletter is August-September 2015

Deadline: July 20.

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.