

November 2015 novembre



## Events this Month

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

*November Worship Theme: Ancestry*

**November 1**

**“All Souls Sunday - Turn clocks back one hour!”**

A bilingual service of personal testimonies linking us to the spirit of loved ones who have recently passed away. Bring a photo or other artifact if you like. All are welcome to participate in the language of their choice, or simply to attend and be inspired by the testimonies of others. A joint service with l'Olivier.

Upstairs, in the Sanctuary

Service Leader: Keith Baxter  
Musician: Jason Krpan, Akbar Manolson  
Coffee Convenor: Phyllis Baxter

**November 8**

**Ms. Cathy Stackpole  
“Ferry Beach”**

Cathy Stackpole is Executive Director of Ferry Beach, a UU summer camp on Saco Bay, in Maine, where a number of UUEstriens have spent time. Over 100 years ago, famous missionary and Universalist preacher Quillen Shinn helped found Ferry Beach camp and conference center.

Upstairs, in the Sanctuary

Service Leader: Carol McKinley  
Coffee Convenor: Chantal Michaud

At 12:15 p.m. is a **Special Meeting of Members** downstairs in Stoddard Hall to discuss where funds we may donate to refugee support should go.

Also, at 3 p.m. Remembrance Day ceremonies are at the North Hatley cenotaph.

**November 13, 11:00 am**

**Pauline Farrugia & Francine Leng  
“The Genius of Camille Saint-Saëns ”**

In the Autumn Genius series, a talk and mini concert about the work of a musician in the autumn of their years, followed by lunch (free for age 60+. Reserve at [estria@cgocable.ca](mailto:estria@cgocable.ca)). \*In English. Upstairs, in the Sanctuary.

Service Leader: Pauline Farrugia  
Musician: P. Farrugia & Francine Leng

**Welcome Families! (5:30 p.m.)**

Potluck supper and discussion for young families (and those who enjoy being with them), childcare with activities provided. Coffee, tea and juice are offered. Bring a dish to share. RSVP to [info@uuestrie.ca](mailto:info@uuestrie.ca).

Downstairs in Stoddard Hall. Contact: Rev. Carole and/or Amanda Hillenburg

**November 15**

**Rev. Carole Martignacco**

**“From Generation to Generation”**

We stand on the shoulders of those who have gone before us, and share a legacy for future generations. What do we inherit from our ancestors, and what will we pass on to our progeny? So much attention is given to material inheritance, but what of our values, our dreams, our visions for the future of our kind?

Upstairs, in the Sanctuary

Coffee Convenor: Adele Ernstrom

**November 21, 7:30 pm**

**Bent By Elephants  
“Benefit Concert”**

'Bent by Elephants' is a Montreal-based folk-rock band in which our own Ryan Frizzell plays. The band will play a benefit concert with voluntary donations accepted at the door, proceeds to our UUEstrie. Suggested donation: \$10.

Upstairs, in the Sanctuary



**November 22**

**Mr. Jason Krpan**

**“Zen and the Art of Motorcycle  
Maintenance”**

The title of this talk refers to Robert M. Pirsig's classic 1974 philosophical non-fiction book on the Metaphysics of Quality, which is still relevant for our society, perhaps more relevant than ever.

Jason Krpan is an autodidact and practitioner of simple living, who would like to remind us once again of the important values we ignore at our peril.

Downstairs, in Stoddard Hall

Service Leader: Keith Baxter

Coffee Convenor: Janet and Joe Weber

**November 28, 8:00 pm**

**“Concert by le Chœur des Sangs Mêlés”**

Back for their semi-annual concert of world music, this a cappella chorale of 14 women and men under the direction of Carol Harris will warm our sanctuary once again, singing from the heart to benefit several charities as well as UUEstrie.

Upstairs, in the Sanctuary

*December Worship Theme: Expectation*

**December 6**

**Adele Ernstrom, Rachel Garber, Kevin Jensen**

**“Amnesty Sunday”**

Our annual Sunday devoted to social justice and political freedom causes around the world, in cooperation with Amnesty International. Participants will be invited to write letters on behalf of people whose rights are jeopardized.

Downstairs, in Stoddard Hall

Service Leader: Rachel Garber

Coffee Convenor: Helene Cunningham

**December 13, 4:30 pm**

**Yuletide Programme and Turkey Supper**

As this newsletter goes to press, we are busy planning for this event. We can be sure it will be filled with beautiful music, community singing, and a few dramatic surprises. Details to follow on the turkey supper.

Upstairs, in the Sanctuary

**December 20, 4:30 pm**

**“Carols and Candlelight”**

Our traditional service of readings and carols, stories, and prayers for the coming year. With guest musicians, trimming our Mitten Tree, followed by a festive Wassail.

Upstairs, in the Sanctuary

Service Leader: Rev. Carole Martignacco

**December 27**

**“Dark”**

No service this Sunday. Enjoy the holiday.

**On the Election**

We congratulate Prime Minister-elect Trudeau on his election and look forward to realization of his commitments on various fronts. They include cessation of Canada's participation in bombing of presumed ISIS targets in the Middle East; federal enquiry into murdered and missing aboriginal women; fair treatment of religious organizations' charitable status; and respect for democratic process and transparency in decision-making.



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

*"A potluck meal may be the most common form of magic. Each person brings what they personally have to offer, and everyone is fed—without planning or management, simply relying on the gathered*

*community to be, by definition, enough. What is your favorite thing to bring to a potluck?" ~ UUA's Daily Compass Meditation for Oct. 20*

This little gem appeared in my email box as I was writing this column, reminding me of the joy of sharing meals together in community, with all the give and take that involves. Always a surprise - how things seem to come together! New dishes to try, no one has to cook the whole meal, and "many hands (really do) make light work". I love how everyone pitches in to set the table, serve each other and help clean up. It always feels festive, like a celebration.

Potluck's a good metaphor for the "hands on, all welcome" style of leadership at UU Estrie. It's a feature of membership in our small spiritual community that everyone contributes each in their own way with the gifts and abilities and passions they have to share. Organizationally, we're like an ongoing year-round feast! Preparation for who we are and what we do as a community goes on before, during and after we get together!

Fall seems to have flown by - all the faster as we've shifted to publishing our newsletter from monthly to every other month. October was almost passed when I was reminded, while doing an online search for something else entirely, that for our religious siblings in the States, it's been designated Clergy Appreciation Month by the UUA. I decided to put my own spin on it, stopping to reflect upon the many ways, both highly visible and behind the scenes, that members of this small congregation participate, support and contribute to the whole feast that is our life in community.

Some of the many ways people contribute to the leadership potluck at UU Estrie:

Sunday greeters; service leaders; Sunday speakers; liaisons with guest speakers; providing recording and sound for services; offering musical talents; serving as a Coffee Convenor; updating our weekly signboard on Main Street; working (playing) with our children; many kinds of PR: email alerts to members each week, media publicizing of activities, services and special events; keeping our membership directory current; managing our website; serving as a lay chaplain, performing rites of passage; French translations; bringing in new visitors and friends, welcoming new faces; serving on the Board of Trustees; caring for our finances - managing cash flow, paying our bills, submitting timely budget reports; custodial care - keeping indoor spaces clean and well-organized; managing rental requests; serving on committees - Programme, Religious Exploration, Committee on Ministry, Fundraising, Caring, Finance, Social Justice, Communications, etc.; Building and Grounds - raking leaves, weeding flowers, doing and/or arranging for repairs, responding to emergencies; visiting members, offering personal support in times of illness or crisis; publishing the newsletter; managing our FaceBook page; representing UU Estrie at CUC events; writing grant proposals and funding reports; engaging in outreach activities - reading the Record column, helping host Student Suppers, attending Génie en Gris concerts and other events; generating ideas; keeping our archives and history; supporting fundraising events; participating in Friday family potlucks; engaging in social justice and keeping us informed about issues; attending concerts; being a regular presence.

For these, and so many other continual gifts you each give to help shape our life together at UU Estrie, this minister says ~ thank you, thank you, a thousand times thank you! It is a pleasure and privilege to share ministry with all of you, and I invite you to join with me in appreciating each other. I therefore declare November as Membership Appreciation Month - and this clergy person celebrates you all!

And now, because this is a combined newsletter, let us not forget, as we move into the cold, to celebrate our monthly themes for ministry: November - Ancestry, December - Expectation. I bid you a beautiful transition into the coming season of midwinter. - Rev. Carole



### President's Report

Dear Friends,

Around the table of the board of trustees, we have initiated – or rather, Michael Grayson has initiated – the most pressing improvements to the church building. We have a wonderful new hand-railing leading from the sidewalk to the downstairs door, ready for winter ice. We have new fans and lighting in the sanctuary upstairs, and work on the insulation in the attic has begun. Kudos to all involved!

Kudos to Carole and her colleagues for a wonderful “Opening to the Spirit” retreat, much appreciated by those who could join in. Kudos to Amanda for keeping our Facebook page up to date. Kudos to Keith Baxter for ably moderating an all-candidates forum.

Thanks to Chris Gill for his contributions to our children’s program. As he has had to resign because of time constraints, we regretfully say good-bye to him in this capacity. But hope to see him again in others! Do you know someone who might like this job?

An enormous bundle of gratitude to Joyce Booth who has carried on handling receipts and disbursements, liaising with our accounting clerk, Katya, and the acting treasurer, Keith. She has decided to retire from this position as of December 31. We are forewarned! And we are seeking help. Do you know someone who would enjoy this?

Thanks to Peter Cunningham who demonstrated a bookkeeping program to Katya, Keith and Joyce. Katya will be using it, I believe. It is pressing that we make the treasurer’s job more manageable, for the long-term health of our finances. In November, I will be discussing this issue with those involved in the finances.

Other ongoing work: (1) Getting our records in order. Thanks to my minutes-sorting buddy, Gordon Stoddard, for working with me on this! (2) Fundraising. A meeting of our fundraising brainstorming group has been called for October 28 to take stock and chart our course over the coming year. (3) Finance/Investments work group: We will be organizing a meeting in

November. (4) Parsonage work group: A wrap-up meeting regarding our research is planned for January.

But the most pressing matter this past month is the dire situation in Syria and the refugees fleeing from it. Thanks to Adele Ernstrom for organizing a Social Justice meeting to discuss possible responses, as well as other social justice initiatives. Now the board is asking members to come to a special meeting on November 8 to decide together what we can commit to do. Please join us!

This has been a busy season, for me personally and for others. Sometimes it seems we forget to look ahead... and then what’s ahead is suddenly right here right now! With this awareness, the board will have a all-day meeting next week to look at board priorities for 2015-2016, as well as long-range planning. We will share this information with you very shortly.

Love is the Spirit,  
Rachel

### Special Meeting of Members

#### Syrian Refugee Crisis – Our Response

The UUEstrie board of trustees has been asked to bring a recommendation to the membership regarding our response to the Syrian Refugee Crisis, which is now more acute than ever.

As our human resources are limited, we thought it wise to support ongoing refugee sponsorship initiatives rather than to sponsor a family ourselves. However, several UUEstrie members are already undertaking fundraising or volunteer initiatives on a personal basis. And as a charitable organization, UUEstrie can support fundraising efforts by providing charitable receipts for donations earmarked for this humanitarian cause.

At its meeting of October 21, the board resolved to create a Syrian Refugee Fund, and to call a special meeting of UUEstrie members. At this meeting, members will be asked to decide together which, if any, of the three local refugee initiatives to support: (1) St. Ephrem’s Church, (2) Bishop’s University Student Refugee Sponsorship Committee, and/or (3) Michele Murray’s friends in Aleppo – George, Peggy and Antoine, or (4) another initiative (ex. Canada Care or CUC).

The board also recommends that during this fiscal year (until April 30, 2016), we designate 50% of our fundraising efforts to supporting Syrian refugee initiatives.

More background information is available either by email or by distribution on Sunday.

**To decide on our response to this crisis, you are invited to a special meeting of members at UUEstrie, 201 Main St., North Hatley, in Stoddard Hall on Sunday, November 8, 2015, at 12:15 to 1:15 p.m.**

**Caring Corner**

Congratulations to Alex and Jane, their children and the entire Brand family for a beautiful wedding celebration. (see photos) We wish you all love, happiness and prosperity!



Gudrun Brand is as active as ever, following her successful knee surgery – and is keeping up with all her grandchildren.

A brief Memorial Celebration was held in our sanctuary on Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> following the regular service, with Candles of Love and Memory for Ross Hunting, whose death occurred a year ago on October 24, 2014. Our thoughts are with Iris and the Hunting family, as we all mourn his loss.

NOTE: Please communicate caring concerns to the minister, Rev. Carole and/or to our Board President, Rachel Garber, so that timely response and support can be offered as issues arise. (You are encouraged to contact Rev. Carole at home: 819.842.1387 with your own news or news of others.)

**Special Thanks this Month**

- To Michael Grayson has been active since joining the UU Estrie Board in managing several significant projects, such as the insulation of our sanctuary, installation of fans and new lighting, and the addition of a safety handrail for the lower level entrance. Michael, your gifts of time, dedication and expertise are well appreciated by us all!

- Also to Keith and Phil Bouskela for help, most recently with the ceiling lighting, crawling around in our very dusty attic.

- To all who have volunteered to be with our children on Sunday mornings during the service, while we continue to look to hire a Children's Coordinator. If you have a story or activity to share with our children, please call Phyllis Baxter, RE chair or Rev. Carole to schedule a Sunday activity and enjoy the energy of our youngest members.



- To Janet and Joe Webber for hosting the Labour Day hike and picnic, with swimming in Lake Mephremagog.





### Martin Heidegger on Time and Divinity

In what sense is the present separate from the future? The German philosopher Martin Heidegger (1889-1976) took issue with an inherited understanding that the gap between present being and future possibility comes about through a fall. If in the present we experienced fullness of being, it would not be a fall but a self-contained plenitude without distance. Against this tradition, Heidegger asks in *Being and Time* (1962) why we equate being with presence in the first place. When we take presence as the definitive sense of being, in his view, we lose sight of its roots in time; this absorption in the present is the true fall. As long as we exist, the possibility of death stands before us, urging us to exist authentically, that is to decide on one possible way of being at the expense of others we must forego. In that possibility we reach into the future by retrieving the past.

Heidegger's conception of time throws into question the powerful influence of Platonism on theology, which is reflected in the way monotheists base their idea of religion on a timeless presence. He suggests the alternative of thinking of a god as an event: "passing by" may be precisely how the divine is present. Thus, our deepest destiny would not turn us to a divine eternity, but to the opening of a divine distance: a distance that is also a divine nearness.

Adapted by Adele Ernstrom from Richard Polt, "Being and Time" in Bret W. David, ed., *Martin Heidegger: Basic Concepts*, Durham, U. K., 2010.

### OUTREACH UPDATE

*Opening to the Spirit* – This project, funded by the Northern Lights grant, continues with a weekly column in the Friday Sherbrooke Record, now in its second year. Pick up a copy of the Friday Record, read the column, and join in the extended community conversation about the "word of the week." Our weekend retreat recently held at The Round Hearth in Eastman was well-attended and drew together an interfaith community who enjoyed worship, meals and fellowship, writing sessions in the hearth room, and workshops on singing, meditation, art, mindfulness, nature and playfulness. We are already planning another one-day version for sometime in Spring 2016.



November 20, *Friday Night Student Suppers* – UU Estrie again takes its turn to host our Chili Special in Lennoxville for Bishop's and area university students. To join our talented team for a fun evening of community outreach, contact Rev. Carole at [revcarole@uuestrie.ca](mailto:revcarole@uuestrie.ca).

*Génie en Gris* concert and light luncheon series continues on Fridays at 11:00 on November 13 and again on December 11. Free for seniors 60+. Reservations required.

### 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/>

### United Nations Day

October 24 was the 70th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations, and we celebrated it on Sunday by listening to Dr. Osire Glacier speak about the Syrian crisis, and specifically ISIS - the Islamic State of Syria. Her understanding of the origins of the political and religious problems in the Middle East, and the origins, aims and strategies of ISIS were mind-boggling. Even more striking were her ideas about finding a way out of the morass that has resulted in so many people losing their lives or fleeing their homes.

In the coming weeks, we anticipate having an audio-visual recording of her presentation on our website, thanks to the work of Gordon Stoddard and Lin Jensen, and thanks to Dr. Glacier's precious collaboration.

The UU-UNO is the Unitarian Universalist United Nations Office - the voice of UUs at the United Nations. It is extremely active, among the other non-governmental agencies working at the UN. Here is a small part of what Bruce Knotts and his team are up to these days:

1. Hosting an event about the plight of LGBTI Asylum Seekers fleeing oppression from about a third of the globe that is not moving forward to greater freedom in the areas of sexual orientation and gender identity.
2. Taking part in a major event featuring Harry Belafonte, the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the UN Special Rapporteur on Racism and many more to talk about the increasing oppression against people of color in this Decade of People of African Descent.
3. Heading off to Ghana to monitor and evaluate the project we have in partnership with the Manye Krobo Queen Mothers to care for and educate AIDS orphans and vulnerable children in Eastern Ghana.
4. Joining with our faith partners to change the global stance towards drugs, moving the world from punishment and military force to care, compassion and healing. The key phrase in this work is harm reduction. The war on drugs has harmed people, families and communities. There will be a global conference on Global Drug Policy here at the UN in April and we will

do our part to change the dynamic from punishment to treatment and care.

As the UU-UNO Envoy for UUEstrie, I was gratified that we received \$274.55 in the offering basket last Sunday toward supporting the UU-UNO. Thank you, all! If you have any questions about the UU-UNO, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Faithfully yours,  
Rachel

*Photo credits: Heather Lewis, Janet Cowan-Weber, Rev. Carole*



### BALANCING ACT

The enthusiastic group of seniors meets regularly in Stoddard Hall Mondays and Wednesdays, and some Fridays for strength and fitness training and balance exercises. New members were added this fall. Thank you to coach David Turner for his dedication. Join them from 10:30-11:30.

<b>Newsletter published by:</b> Unitarian Universalist Church of North Hatley l'Église unitarienne universaliste de North Hatley	
<b>Address</b>	201 rue Main North Hatley QC J0B 2C0, Canada
<b>Telephone:</b>	(819) 842-4146
<b>E-mail address:</b>	info@uuestrie.ca
<b>Church Website:</b>	http://www.uuestrie.ca
<b>Minister:</b>	The Reverend Carole Martignacco <a href="mailto:revcarole@uuestrie.ca">revcarole@uuestrie.ca</a> <a href="mailto:cmartignacco@gmail.com">cmartignacco@gmail.com</a> 819-212-7150 (cell) 819-842-1387 (home)
<b>President:</b>	Rachel Garber rachel@uuestrie.ca
<b>Lay Chaplains:</b>	Jane Pankovitch Keith Baxter
<b>Ceremonies Coordinator</b>	ceremonies@uuestrie.ca
<b>Religious Education:</b>	( <i>position to be filled</i> ) re@uuestrie.ca
<b>Editor:</b>	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



## Calendar and Schedule

SUN 1 10:30AM SERVICE: ALL SOULS  
 SUN 8 10:30AM SERVICE: FERRY BEACH  
 FRI 13 11:00AM GÉNIE EN GRIS  
 5:30PM FAMILY POTLUCK  
 SUN 15 10:30AM SERVICE: GENERATIONS  
 SAT 21 7:30PM BENT BY ELEPHANTS  
 SUN 22 10:30AM SERVICE: JASON KRPA  
 SAT 28 8:00PM SANGS MÊLÉS  
 SUN 29 10:30AM SERVICE: TBA

### DECEMBER

SUN 6 10:30AM SERVICE: AMNESTY  
 SUN 13 4:30PM YULETIDE PROGRAM  
 SUN 20 4:30PM CAROLS AND CANDLELIGHT

### 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
Adele Ernstrom	Secretary
	Treasurer
Michael Grayson	Member at large

## This is your newsletter !!!

Next issue of Newsletter is January 2016

### Deadline: ***December 31.***

*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](mailto:newsletter@uuestrie.ca).*

