

September-October 2016 septembre-octobre



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

September 4

Rev. Carole Martignacco
"You are warmly invited!"

Reverend Carole explores the theme of INVITATION - the invitation to share our talents and dreams, the work we do together as a spiritual community. During coffee hour, a list of "equal-volunteer opportunities" will be provided.

September 11

"Fall Hike and Picnic"

It is our custom to close the summer season with another outdoor gathering. This year Pat Bird has kindly agreed to host us once again. The address is 453, ch de Bolton Centre, St.-Etienne. Take exit 100 off Autoroute 10 west, turn south, continue to and through the village of St.-Etienne, past a small lake on the left to #453 on the left.

Away from UU Estrie

September 18

Rev. Gary Shapiro

"All God's Children Got a Place in the Choir"

Rev Gary Shapiro is an ordained Interfaith and Interspiritual minister from Southern VT. He regularly attends services at his local UU Church.

Service Leader: Keith Baxter

Wednesday, September 21, 7 p.m.

Rev. Carole Martignacco

"Spirit of Life Circle: Small Group Ministry"

First monthly meeting, in Stoddard Hall for a simple ritual that includes brief check-in, centering words, lighting the chalice, exploring the monthly theme - this time it's INVITATION - and sharing our thoughts, mindfully speaking and listening to each other in love and respect. If a deeper dimension of

being together appeals to you, call me at 819.842.1387 or email revcarole@uuestrie.ca to RSVP. We'd love to have you!

September 25, 10:00 am

Gabriella Brand
"Deep Listening"

Join us in a fraternal visit to First Universalist Parish in Derby Line VT on this Sunday. Service there begins at 10 am, and will feature our own Gabriella Brand with a service on Deep Listening.

Away from UU Estrie

Friday, September 30, 7:30 p.m.

Mark Abley & Linda Leith
"Fall 2016 Reading Series"

Mark Abley, poet and non-fiction writer, and Linda Leith, writer, publisher and founder of Montreal's Blue Metropolis Literary Festival, will read from their works. This is the first in a series of three readings at UUEstrie.

Service Leader: Angela Leuck

October 9

Rev. Carole Martignacco
"Blessed by Abundance"

As we have done for a number of years, we celebrate Thanksgiving with a worship service at the historic Huntingville Universalist Church, which is on Route 147 in Huntingville, just opposite the Ascot River bridge. No service in North Hatley this Sunday.

Away from UU Estrie

October 16

Rabbi Sherril Gilbert

“Sacred Water, Safe Water”

Rabbi Sherril Gilbert of B'nai Or in Montreal will be sharing a "Sukkot" service with UUEstrie, followed by a potluck lunch.

Service Leader: Rev. Carole Martignacco

October 23

Ms. Audrey Carleton

“Celebrating the United Nations”

Today we celebrate our annual UN Sunday with, as guest speaker, a young woman from Washington DC who is studying at McGill University. Audrey is also an intern at the Unitarian Universalist United Nations Office in New York City. We have flown the UN flag in our sanctuary for many years, honoring the mutual goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all, which is also the 6th principle of Unitarian Universalism.

Service Leader: Keith Baxter

October 28, 7:30 p.m.

Kenneth Radu & Susan Gillis

“Fall 2016 Reading Series”

Kenneth Radu, short story writer and novelist, and Susan Gillis, poet, will read from their works. This is the second in the Fall 2016 reading series at UUEstrie.

Service Leader: Angela Leuck

Pride festival and parade

The 4th annual “Fière la fête” celebrating sexual and gender diversity in the Estrie is this **Saturday, August 27**, at 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

It’s at the Marché de la Gare in Sherbrooke, at 710 Place de la Gare. It’s organized by GRIS Estrie, in collaboration with volunteers and various non-profit organizations. For more information, visit www.fierelafete.ca or www.facebook.com/fierelafete.

UUEstrie will have a table at the event. If you would like to participate in staffing our booth, please contact Amanda Hillenburg at secretary@UUEstrie.ca, or 819-993-7543. We hope to have two people for 2-hour timeslots as

follows: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. (includes set-up); 1 to 3 p.m.; 3 to 5 p.m. (includes dismantling). Bilingual persons are especially needed. Could one of them be you?

D.G. Jones: Celebration of Life

On August 21, about 48 people, some from afar, attended the celebration of D.G. Jones, poet, translator, professor, critic, mentor, and long-time resident of North Hatley, who died in March. In the morning, poet Steve Luxton spoke about his work, and after a brunch of pancakes and blueberries, we heard from a number of former friends, colleagues and admirers of his work. They included the Commissioner of Official Languages Graham Fraser.



Photos from the event: Michael Grayson



Minister's Reflection - Carole's Column

September's Theme is
INVITATION

YOU ~ yes, you ~ are
invited! You answer the
phone, open your email or
collect the post to find -
surprise! Someone is
requesting your presence

at some event - casual or formal - to celebrate
whom or whatever. You RSVP if requested,
note date, time and place in your agenda, and
begin to anticipate. You plan what to bring -
flowers, a dish to share or bottle of wine,
perhaps you'll shop for a gift. Congratulations!
You have now integrated someone else's plans
into your own life - all part of being inter-
connected.

At UU Estrie our life in community
works much the same way. Beyond the year-
round standing invitation that is Sunday
morning, you are invited to participate in many
varied and ever-changing ways. Your presence
- and it is indeed an honour! - is requested
because you are a rare and precious gift to us
all, and your talents and dreams enrich our life
together. Respond as you will, September is a
month of start up and beginnings in most UU
congregations.

This September, I'll be answering the
call to something new by attending the 3rd
World Religions Global Conference, an all-day
even held in Montreal on September 15th. Key
speakers include Karen Armstrong, Gregory
Baum, Deepak Chopra and other great figures
on the interfaith religions landscape all
exploring the theme of non-violence in religion
- what a refreshing idea in today's chaotic
world!

May I invite you to consider trying
something new with us this season. Yes, there
are the usual working groups or committees
always looking for new ideas which you are
warmly invited to join and bring your own -
ideas, that is. Because our community thrives
on participation. If you've been a visitor for
awhile, I invite you to consider whether you're
ready to become a member. Perhaps you wish
to have a voice or vote in helping shape what

happens here. Talk to any Board member, or call
me and let's set a date. I'd love to invite you to
tea and conversation - and welcome you more
deeply into our UU Estrie extended family.

Meanwhile, let's consider this month the
many invitations we extend and receive - "for all
life is a gift which we are bound to use to build
the common good." (#128 SLT For All That Is
Our Life). October's theme is BLESSING - and
we will continue throughout the coming year,
exploring one theme each month on our path of
living spirited lives and sharing the journey.
And may you be blessed as this beautiful
bountiful season unfolds! ~ Rev. Carole

BREAKING NEWS! SPIRIT OF LIFE

Consider joining the new small group ministry
Spirit of Life Circle which will be meeting
monthly from 7 to 9 p.m. on a Wednesday
evening beginning this month with September
21. We'll meet in Stoddard Hall for a simple
ritual that includes brief check-in, centering
words, lighting the chalice, exploring the
monthly theme - this time it's INVITATION, in
case you missed that, and sharing our thoughts,
mindfully speaking and listening to each other in
love and respect. If a deeper dimension of being
together appeals to you, call me at 819.842.1387
or email revcarole@uuestrie.ca to RSVP. We'd
love to have you!

CHARTER FOR COMPASSION

Last spring we previewed with three evening
sessions the work of Dr. Karen Armstrong, and
ended with a resolution to explore more fully her
Twelve Steps to A Compassionate Life. Going
forward, a series of six evening sessions from 7-
9:15 is being proposed, beginning in mid or late
January 2017 to continue through
February/March, open as before to UU Estrie
members, friends and the larger community. If
you are interested - again, you are invited! Call
UU Estrie and leave a message for the minister,
or email Reverend Carole:
revcarole@uuestrie.ca.

President's Report

As the nights are getting colder and a few leaves are already showing a tinge of colour, we are reminded that summer is more than half over. What a great berry summer it's been! Blueberries are still plentiful and the blackberries received rain at just the right moment to plump up and ripen.

U.U. Estrie has been a busy place. The Cantons de Hatley day camp closed for the season last Friday. They enjoyed occupying our lower level and certainly brought life into the building. Many strangers were introduced to our existence.

Many visitors also came to the wonderfully successful series of events planned by Angela Leuck and Steve Luxton. A very special thanks to you both and to your writing group and friends who hosted the poetry reading, featuring Bart Sutter, poet laureate of Duluth, Minnesota; as well as a day to remember D.G. Jones poet and critic of North Hatley.

I was reminded this week that we all make assumptions that can be incorrect. For over 30 years, I assumed something that was told to me in good faith, was true. I found out this week that I had been given the wrong information. I now wish I had asked questions to clarify the situation. How different I might have felt about this issue for all those years.

I'm still getting used to being president of the Board of U.U. Estrie. With 3 enthusiastic, energetic young adults, Camille, Amanda and Ryan, myself, Rev. Carole and past president Rachel we are a pretty balanced group.

You don't have to be on the Board of Trustees to be involved and contribute to the life of this congregation. There are several committees that could use some new inspiration. Check out the list of possibilities. This congregation depends on its precious volunteers so please keep your criticism constructive, and think about how you can be part of the solution.

In Gratitude,
Phyllis

Social Justice Notes

"I was not imprisoned for calling myself Unitarian, no. I was imprisoned because they were not happy with the work with we were doing. They wanted us just to sing and dance and pray. But we could not only do those things, in the face of great need. To be a Unitarian is to work for justice. So I would say that yes, I was imprisoned for being a Unitarian."

Rev. Fulgence Ndagijimana

Well known to our congregation, Sarah Baxter published on the CUC website in June 2016 an excellent interview with Rev. Fulgence Ndagijimana, who recently arrived in Saskatoon as a refugee from Burundi. What follows is a brief version of her account, which I hope may encourage members to go to the website for the whole text.

In it Rev. Fulgence explains that Burundi has been plagued with ethnic violence since the country gained its independence in 1962. When in 1993 a Hutu leader was elected for the first time, the president was killed after three months in office and a civil war began. Many died in this conflict, which lasted till 2005 when a treaty between Tutsi and Hutu leaders was signed. But the president elected in 2005 had by 2015 decided that his first term was not a term, because he was actually elected by parliament rather than by the people. This serious breach of trust between leadership and people brought about renewal of civil war. With his Unitarian church in Bujumbura, Rev. Fulgence worked for restoration of the peace treaty that had calmed conflict for a decade.

In November 2015, Rev. Fulgence was kidnapped and taken to the bush for many hours, but saved by some police who were not party to the government's plan to harm him. Subsequently he was again detained, then released because of pressure from the CUC and Unitarians around the world. With his life under threat, he was convinced that he had to leave Burundi and, through significant help from the CUC, made it to Canada as a refugee in November 2016. His wife and son had previously left and were living in the U.S. The grant of a multi-year Canadian visa to Rev. Fulgence led him first to Montreal, then to Saskatoon where

he hoped his family would soon be able to join him.

Rev. Fulgence acknowledges that adapting to life in Canada means recognizing differences between our church culture here and the very God-centred Christian Unitarianism with which he was familiar at home. But he thinks major values are held in common by Unitarian here and in other places. We value social justice work and, while we take pride in the autonomy of congregations and individual voices, we also recognize the importance of our collective voice and responsibility.

For information on efforts of the Unitarian Church of Saskatoon and the CUC to support the ministry of Rev. Fulgence in Canada, see the CUC website.

A quotation from Rev. Shawn Newton, First Unitarian Congregation may close this brief summary: “While traveling with Rev. Fulgence in Kenya last summer, my already deep admiration of him grew tremendously as I came to see first hand his considerable gifts for ministry. Fulgence has a keen mind, a compassionate heart, and a spine of steel. His strength of character put in service to our faith is an incredible gift to Unitarian Universalism. I heartily support our efforts to take up ministry in North America.”

With acknowledgements to Rev. Carole, Adele Ernstrom

To see a 4-minute video by and about Rev. Fulgence, visit this link: <http://www.faithify.org/projects/revfulgence/> There, you will also find information about how to donate to help support him, if you wish, and you can download a free e-booklet by Faithify.org entitled **4 Things Crowdfunding Can Teach the Church**.

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/>

The Edelby Family in Aleppo

Here’s an update on the Edelby family, whom we raised funds for this past year. Peggy, George and their father Antoine are attempting to flee Aleppo and apply for refugee status to come to Sherbrooke, per an email from Michele Murray:

“The Edelbys are still in Aleppo. Just over a month ago or so, George got a seat in a taxi of a driver he knew (going with a driver that he trusts helps ensure that he won’t be kidnapped), and they (along with other Syrians—the driver sold each seat in his taxi) set out in the direction of the Syrian city of Tartous, with the goal of entering Lebanon from that direction. Unfortunately, they had to turn around after 90 minutes because it got too dangerous. The driver refused to go further because of the atmosphere at the checkpoints they had to go through—there was much agitation apparently.

“About two weeks ago, he tried again. This time, he went to Damascus, and then caught a ride to the border from there. He got out of Syria okay, but the Lebanese refused to let him in, and he was returned to Aleppo by bus. Along the way, his laptop was taken away (by Syrian soldiers).

“When I expressed my sorrow about his having to go through this, he said “Don’t worry too much, Michele. It wasn’t much worse than the everyday life struggles.” And, he was smart enough to know that his laptop had a good chance of being taken away, so he took his old computer.

“We texted the other day, and he said that he is going to try again to get to Beirut on Sunday. He said that he thinks the road is better now, and he feels more confident that he’ll get across this time into Lebanon. (It’s not clear to me why he thinks this).

“So, this is what I can tell you at this point. Thank you so much for your ongoing concern...”

If you have been listening to the news, you will know that fighting has intensified in Aleppo, and we are hoping with all our hearts for the safety of George, Peggy and Antoine, among the many others whose lives are in danger in that part of the world.

Special Thanks this Month

To Michael Grayson and Keith Baxter for planning and supervising the much needed repairs to the bell tower, and also modifications to all the doors to bring them up to fire safety standards. In particular, we were able to save, repair and use the original solid wood doors to the sanctuary. They had to be re-hung to open outwards, and all the exit doors now have crash bars to make exit easy at all times. The new metal roofing on the tower is attractive and should be good for at least 75 years.



To our retiring President, Rachel Garber, and to the retiring members of the board: Heather Lewis, Adele Ernstrom, and Michael Grayson, for a job well done and appreciated.

And a warm welcome with gratitude to the new members of the board, Phyllis Baxter, Ryan Frizell, Camille Bouskela and Amanda Hillenburg. And the past president, Rachel, who is taking on treasurer as well.

To Joey Marosi for graciously hosting the annual picnic in July.

To Crystle Reid and Ryan Frizzel for organizing and cooking the delicious Solstice Supper. Even cappuccino pecan pie, oh my!

To Amanda Hillenburg and Heather Lewis for organizing the silent auction which accompanied the supper and helped animate the evening.

It was a very pleasant and sociable event.. And a financial success! Thanks to all who contributed in any way.

To Angela Leuck and Steve Luxton for the variety of interesting and enjoyable writers events they have organized and hosted.

And to all in our UUEstrie community who contribute in so many ways, visible and invisible to making it work. Your efforts are appreciated!

Newsletter published by: Unitarian Universalist Church of North Hatley l'église 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:	Phyllis Baxter president@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

<p>Minister's Office Hours By appointment For emergency pastoral care, phone: 1. Rev. Carole 2. Rachel Garber</p>

Calendar and Schedule

SUN 4 10:30AM SERVICE: REV. CAROLE
 SUN 11 10:30AM HIKE AND PICNIC
 SUN 18 10:30AM SERVICE: GARY SHAPIRO
 WED 21 7:00PM SMALL GROUP CIRCLE
 SUN 25 10:00AM SERVICE: AT **DERBY LINE**
 FRI 30 7:30PM FALL READING SERIES

OCTOBER

SUN 2 10:30AM SERVICE: TBA
 SUN 9 10:30AM SERVICE: AT HUNTINGVILLE
 SUN 16 10:30AM SERVICE: SUKKOT
 SUN 23 10:30AM SERVICE: UN SUNDAY
 FRI 28 7:30PM FALL READING SERIES
 SUN 30 10:30AM SERVICE: TBA

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:

Phyllis Baxter	President
Rachel Garber	Past President/Treasurer
Amanda Hillenburg	Secretary
Camille Bousk�ela	Member at large
Ryan Frizzell	Member at large

This is your newsletter !!!

Next issue of Newsletter is November-December 2016

Deadline: **October 23.**

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.