

# nouvelles news

May - June 2017 mai - juin



## 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

**May 28**

**Ms. Ena Greyeyes**  
**“The Wisdom of Elders”**

In every society it is the Elders who hold and understand and pass on the Story of the people in which is accumulated the wisdom that allows the community to cohere, the good life to be shared.

Service Leader: Gudrun Brand

Coffee Convenor: Mary Lynn Ross

**Friday, June 2, 7:30 pm**

**Keith Henderson and Kenneth Radu**  
**“Literary readings, Keith Henderson & Kenneth Radu”**

The third in our spring series of literary readings begins with a “Meet the Authors Potluck” at 6 p.m. in the downstairs Stoddard Hall, followed by Kenneth Radu and Keith Henderson reading from their works at 7:30 p.m. upstairs in the wood-panelled church sanctuary. Both the potluck (bring a food contribution) and the readings are free of charge and open to the public. UUEstrie gratefully acknowledges the financial assistance of the Canada Council for the Arts through the Quebec Writers’ Federation.

Service Leader: Steve Luxton

**June 4**

**Ms. Angela Leuck**  
**“Writing: A Creative Path to Healing”**

Writer and teacher Angela Leuck describes her experiences and adventures giving creative writing workshops to a variety of at-risk populations: youth, the disabled, teen mothers, battered women, the homeless, and soon, prisoners!

Service Leader: Rachel Garber

Coffee Convenor: Amanda H'burg

**Wednesday, June 7, 7:15 pm**

**Rev. Carole Martignacco**  
**“The Spirit Group”**

This month's theme for discussion and sharing is Growth. If you would like to participate, please contact Rev. Carole first, at [revcarole@uuestrie.ca](mailto:revcarole@uuestrie.ca).

Downstairs, in Stoddard Hall

**June 11**

**Rev. Carole Martignacco**  
**“All the Colours: A Flower Communion”**

Early summer our corner of the world is arrayed with an astonishing abundance of flowers. In our own version of a uniquely UU ritual first celebrated by Czech Unitarians to find hope during wartime, we will celebrate our shared ministry and express gratitude for the abundance of gifts we give to and receive from each other. Come and be celebrated for the colour you bring to our landscape! (Bring flowers from your garden if you can; extra flowers will also be provided.)

**June 18**

**Mary Lynn Ross**  
**“Fathers' Day”**

On this special day we remember those who are or were 'fathers' in our lives, in a participatory service of personal testimonies about our fathers and what we have learned from them. All are welcome to participate, and to bring if they would like a photo or memento of some kind that means 'father' to them.

At 3:30 pm on this fathers' day we present a concert in our sanctuary by the Chœur des Sangs Mêlés. Beautiful songs from around the world. Freewill donation.

Service Leader: Mary Lynn Ross

June 25  
TBA

July 2  
“Picnic Sunday”

Our annual Picnic Sunday will take place at 11am at the home of Uma Nigam, 14 Vaughan Rd in Canton de Hatley. Vaughan Rd is off the Capleton Rd. near the north edge of the village of North Hatley; Uma's home is across the bridge on the right. There will be a circle service on the lawn at some point, and a potluck picnic lunch for all. All are welcome.

No service in our meetinghouse on this day.

### **Jonathon Ellison in Senegal: Water for Women is flowing**

After a very successful fundraising work here in Quebec, on March 14 Jonathon arrived in Senegal, and he and Aisha have been working hard to carry out the Water for Women project. That involves meetings with partnering organizations, an hydrologist an agronomist, well diggers, surveying the gardens and well sites, fencing the gardens to keep out cattle, negotiating with the village men so they do not impede the women's projects, and so much more. Here are two of his daily notes:

**Thursday 2017/03/30.** Meet with Babacar, Queen Ayèndiébé and Témère, Émilie (not home) and Anne-Marie (not home). Afternoon visit to garden. Unbelievable progress and I am brought to tears. Emilie worries they are tears of disappointment.

**Sunday 2017/04/02.** Watering in garden in morning. Afternoon is big meeting with 125 women about garden progress & announcement of electric pump and solar panels. Discussion about agronomist coming, and hydrologist, and economic development workshop. Women are very, very pleased.

Here are four photos he sent: A garden before and after (*on right*) the well; a village man dancing; and a woman at her home. (*last page*)

- Rachel Garber

### **Canadian Unitarians for Social Justice - Quebec**

This past April 2, Rachel, John Mackley and I attended a gathering at the Unitarian Church of Montreal to found a Quebec chapter of CUSJ. Cymry Gomery (UCM), whose organizational initiative it was, chaired the meeting. Joining with the above-mentioned were Christina Duvander and Patricia Philip (UCM), Sheila Laursen and Susan Czarnocki (Lakeshore), Carol Speirs (observer, CUC) and Emily Kwiecien (observer, Concordia). Following introductions we read guidelines and bylaws of the CUSJ as well as the CUC Principles.

Discussion around issues the chapter might take up was preliminary, seeking to identify areas of concern that were considered most urgent and likely to be productive of effort. Those present ranked such areas in this order:

1) Environmental issues; 2) Poverty and Economic Inequality; and 3) Equality of all People (combating hate speech and stigmatization). Under the Environment, among current questions and campaigns cited were: 1) maintenance of moratorium on fracking in Quebec; 2) burial of Hydro lines in Quebec in tandem with burial of lines to take Northern Pass electricity to Boston; 3) threatened development of marsh in Ville St Laurent that would destroy bird habitat; and 4) Energy East and XL pipelines. This, of course, is far from a complete list of possibilities! Discussion at a projected meeting in June should bring us closer to defining how we might direct our efforts. The views of members and friends of the three congregations are cordially invited. Please make them known to representatives from UUEstrie-- what issues do you consider most urgently in need of attention?

*Adele Ernstrom*



Women's Garden, March 2017, 2 months after first well is drilled.

Water For Women - CANADA



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

Right now we are in the transitional season of either winter into spring, or spring into summer, which vacillates each day depending upon the weather. Everywhere you look the awakening earth and lengthening days give cause for rejoicing. A season of change and new beginnings. Grass is greening, leaves and buds unfolding, Gardening tools have come out of the shed, winter shovels hopefully stored away, flowerbeds cleared as perennials appear right on schedule. We hold in our compassion all those in Quebec and elsewhere who struggle right now with relentless rain and resulting floods.

As we move forward through the end of UU Estrie's fiscal year and Annual General Meeting (June 21, 7 p.m.), I am pleased to continue with a renewed contract as your Consulting Minister. How smoothly we transition from one event to another, how well we work together. There is a joy in our gatherings, Sundays and the many special events that keep blossoming on our church calendar. Here's a preview of the two monthly themes for this season of ministry: for May - Compassion, and for June - Growth.

**COMPASSION:** Early in May we conclude our six-week course on compassion begun in late March. Based on the book by Karen Armstrong, *12 Steps to a Compassionate Life*, a committed group has met on Tuesday evenings to explore the many ways we might deepen our daily practice of compassion in all our relationships. This has been such a rewarding experience of connection and a profound growth in awareness that the group is planning a reunion in the fall to discuss how the course has changed us over time. In the meantime, the Group is committed to exploring ways of sharing its work in larger ways, as part of the Charter For Compassion global outreach. What if we were to declare ourselves a "compassionate community"?

**GROWTH** in nature issues a corresponding challenge to us humans, whose very nature is to grow in new and different ways. No matter what

our age or stage of life, growth happens. It even seems to intensify with age, with new opportunities to discover and learn about a whole world out there of fascinating people, ideas, places and happenings. We are never too old to learn new ways and explore new worlds. Indeed, our choice to grow keeps us from its opposite, decline. Let's explore together the many dimensions of personal growth, both rewards and challenges. And for those who were unavailable for the first round, I'm committed to repeating this course beginning in late September.

Growth is an ever-present concern for us as a congregation as well. A whole section of my working library deals with church growth - or the lack thereof - and reasons why. But theories are only useful if tested and put into practice. And it's not just measured in numbers. Linda Thomson of the CUC, who has spent years studying church growth theory and patterns, has written about what is called "maturational growth." In the past couple of years since we began to focus on outreach, we've reached out into the community and created alliances on many levels. As UU Estrie grows in influence and community involvement, how does this affect our spiritual health and well-being? And there is always the simplest formula of growth to fall back on, the One On One theory. You know, if each person were to invite just one other into our community, we would experience a 100% growth rate. Who does not know someone of like mind or spirit who might find themselves at home in our loving community?

*Rev. Carole*

### May 2017, President's Ponderings

It's been almost a year since I rejoined the Board of UU Estrie and agreed to be your President.

I really didn't want to be President, but our Board was relatively young and new to our community and it made sense for me to agree to the position. At the time, I said that I needed to have the other Board members share in all the work. They have done a wonderful job! I have really enjoyed working with Amanda, Camille and Ryan, and with having Rachel and Rev. Carole there to help us navigate our way through the year.

I had joined the FUNdraising committee, the year before I embarked on the present Board. We had a very successful year in which we were inspired to raise money to help refugees settle in Quebec. We chose to get involved in activities that we considered FUN. We chose activities that we wanted to do, and we made sure we had a team to help carry out each event. I see these Fundraising events as Community building and outreach opportunities. Many thanks to Crystle Reid for chairing the committee this past year and to Kevin Jensen for serving on the committee; Kevin was always ready to jump into the flurry! And thanks to everyone who contributed food and drink and other essential services to make these gatherings successful.

I am really looking forward to the Mother's Day concert with Nicholas Williams and Alex Kehler. I'm hoping we get a good turnout. By the time you read this newsletter, the concert will have already happened.

Special thanks to Angela Leuck and Steve Luxton for organizing the Literary Reading series that involved hosting a potluck and inviting wonderful author to read from their work. One more such event is scheduled for June 2<sup>nd</sup> featuring authors Keith Henderson and Kenneth Radu. A pot luck supper will then take place at 6 p.m., followed by an inspiring reading.

Another very enjoyable event was put together by Rev. Carole, Janice Laduke from Black Cat Books and Esther Saanum. The Poem in Your Pocket coffeehouse was a delightful occasion. Thank you, Ryan, for your trumpet playing and thanks to Janice and David Gillis for their musical contribution.

We have been so fortunate to have these varied programs taking place in our midst. There are several more offerings coming up in June. Look for the announcements and try to participate.

If you think of an idea for a fundraising activity that you would like to organize or be part of, speak to me or Crystle or Kevin. Working together we can possibly make it happen.

If you think of a topic or a speaker for a Sunday morning service, talk to Keith, Kevin,

Gudrun, Camille or Joey Marosi. It doesn't have to be three hymns and a talk. We are a small congregation and it is up to all of us to make things happen. But because we are small, we can all participate and put our own unique stamp on what happens here.

I WANT TO MENTION THE EXTREMELY SUCCESSFUL 4<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL DINNER FOR CHILD HAVEN INTERNATIONAL that was held at Shalimar Restaurant in Lennoxville. We don't have the final accounting from the Silent Auction yet, but should this week. Thanks to all who came and to all who made contributions. It is truly a worthy organization, supporting over 1300 previously destitute souls.

Fortunately for me, I was able to take part in all but the first in the Twelve Steps to Compassion discussion group. Reading Karen Armstrong's book, sharing with the group and trying to put into practice some of her exercises really helped me integrate her ideas and follow through with a more compassionate response to others around me.

Another great community building activity that I've been a part of is the monthly Small Group meetings, where we discuss our personal experiences related to the Theme of the month. Thank you, Rev. Carole for facilitating these two rich discussion groups, and to all those from both the congregation and the wider community who came ready to share openly.

As I said, it's been almost a year since your present Board of Trustees was assembled. That means that it's almost time for our AGM – Annual General Meeting. Gudrun Brand and Heather Lewis are our Nominating Committee, and will be asking some of you if you are willing to join the Board. Please consider this an opportunity to help UU Estrie, using your own special talents and strengths. It should be noted that our By-laws state that you have to be a member to be on the Board. However, you don't have to be a member to join a Committee.

In community,

*Phyllis Baxter*

### Do you write? Would you like to?

A new summer writing group is forming in North Hatley. This group will be meeting at UU ESTRIE.

The purpose of the group is to have a supportive, structured place to write, read, listen and explore the craft of writing.

Open to beginning or seasoned writers who want to remember a life, observe the here and now, or comment on the human condition.

During the group time, prompts will provide a spring board for writers. These short, impromptu pieces can be shared aloud.

Some writers may want to work on longer projects, inviting constructive comments from the group. Some writers may want to develop writing techniques such as dialogue, character development, setting, story-line, the use of images, the senses, emotions.

#### Practical details:

Time: Wednesday 1:30-3:00 pm

6 weeks, July 12 - August 16

Avery Booth Hall, UU ESTRIE

No fee. We ask that participants contribute a toonie to UU ESTRIE to cover maintenance expenses.

Group structure and moderator: Gabriella Brand

Organizer: Faith LeBaron

#### 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/>



*Men dancing to celebrate the water for women well.*



*Sebastien gave Joyce a picture.  
Joyce made it into a wall hanging for him.*

<b>Newsletter published by:</b> Unitarian Universalist Church of North Hatley l'eglise 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>	Phyllis Baxter president@uuestrie.ca
<b>Lay Chaplains:</b>	Jane Pankovitch Keith Baxter
<b>Ceremonies Coordinator:</b>	ceremonies@uuestrie.ca
<b>Religious Education:</b>	re@uuestrie.ca
<b>Editor:</b>	Lin Jensen newsletter@uuestrie.ca

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



Woman at home

## Calendar and Schedule

SUN 28 10:30AM SERVICE: ENA GREYEVES  
JUNE  
FRI 2 7:30PM LITERARY READINGS  
SUN 4 10:30AM SERVICE: WRITING/HEALING  
WED 7 7:15PM SPIRIT GROUP  
SUN 11 10:30AM SERVICE: COLOURS  
SUN 18 10:30AM SERVICE: FATHER'S DAY  
SUN 25 10:30AM SERVICE: TBA  
WED 28 7:00PM ANNUAL GEN. MEETING

SUN 2 11:00AM PICNIC SUNDAY

### Board of Trustees

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

Phyllis Baxter	President
Camille Bouskela	Vice President
Rachel Garber	Past President/Treasurer
Amanda Hillenburg	Secretary
Ryan Frizzell	Member at large

## This is your newsletter !!!

Next issue of Newsletter is <Next Month> 2017

### Deadline: **June 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](mailto:newsletter@uuestrie.ca).



Women's Garden, Nov 2016, prior to drilled well.

Water For Women - CANADA

Garden before the well