



This Month's Sunday Services

Universalist Unitarian
Church of Halifax
5500 Inglis Street
Halifax NS B3H 1J8

902-429-5500
mail@uuchurch.ca
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Rev. Israel Buffardi
Interim Minister

Jessica Friesen
Music Director

Marie-Claude Leroux
Director, Religious Ed
for Children & Youth

Pam Griffin-Hody
President

Etta Hamm
Newsletter Editor

Sunday services
10:30 am

All are welcome

Everyone is welcome in the sanctuary in person but please respect the space of those who are wearing masks and/or social distancing, both of which are encouraged. Services start at 10:30 am except for September 25th.

You can also join us via **Zoom** between 10:20 and 10:30 am using this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/666004431?pwd=RjQvVEtjUjM1MEdnMDgxU0VSRzVLQT09>

Meeting ID: 666 004 431 Password: 010670.

Or you can watch the service (live or later) on our UUCH **YouTube** channel at:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3Lw1hW1n7z3mNapa6yY7Jw>

Our Theme for September: Belonging

Sep 4 Social Justice and Social Gospel; A Pioneer

Come and hear our member Jim, as he thoughtfully summarizes his recent readings and his reflections on social justice and the social gospel through the experiences of Frontier College founder Alfred Fitzpatrick. **Presenter: Jim Morrison**

Sep 11 Gathering at the Well of Community

Together we will reflect on community and belonging, our theme for September. You are invited to bring some water and stones with you to participate in a ritual of ingathering to mark the start of our programming year. **Presenter: Rev. Israel**

Sep 18 Belonging

We dive further into our theme of belonging. What does it mean to belong while also celebrating our individuality? How does spiritual community help us find belonging? **Presenter: Rev. Israel**

Sep 25 Fall CUC National Service: A Faith Worth Failing For

[Join us at 2 pm for this online-only presentation](#) — as UUs across Canada reflect on risk-taking, widening the circle, and how we are called to become the transformational faith we aspire to be. **Presenters: Revs. Shana Lynngood, Samaya Oakley**

Theme for October: Courage

Our mission is to provide a community that nurtures personal and spiritual growth, practices inclusiveness, celebrates diversity and affirms individual **and** collective commitment to community service and social justice.



September 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 7 pm Shared Ministry 7 pm UUCH online gathering	2	3
4 10:30 service Jim Morrison: Social Justice & Social Gospel Name tags! (see inside)	5 Labour Day 	6	7  8 pm RE meeting	8 Building Team time TBA 7 pm UUCH online gathering	9	10 10:30 am In-person Saturday Brunch resumes today! More below.
11 10:30 service Rev. Israel Buffardi: Ingathering, Blending of Waters	12	13 7 pm Worship meeting	14 7 pm Climate Crisis Team meeting	15 7 pm UUCH online gathering	16	17 10:30 am Brunch 
18 10:30 service Rev. Israel Buffardi: Belonging RE resumes! 12:15 UUs Dine-out	19	20 7 pm Caring meeting	21 6:30 pm Board of Directors	22 First day of Fall 7 pm UUCH online gathering 7:30 pm Membership	23 11 am at Victoria Park: Global Climate Strike See inside.	24 10:30 am Brunch Retreat at UUCH. Watch for details.
25 2 pm, online: National CUC presentation: A Faith Worth Failing For 25 - 27 Rosh Hashanah	26 	27 Newsletter Deadline 7:30 pm Reconciliation, Dismantling Racism	28	29 7-8 pm UUCH online gathering	30	

Saturday Brunch



UUCH has been serving a Saturday Brunch for ten years, including a take-out version all through the pandemic. This is an important service for our community. On September 10, we will be resuming our in-person brunch, which is also an opportunity for us to sit and eat in community with our neighbours.

Thank you to those who have already volunteered, some monthly, some on a weekly basis.

The Saturday Brunch is still **urgently** in need of volunteers including a coordinator.

Please contact Pam G-H at pam_griffin-hody@carleton.ca



Greetings From Your Interim Minister!

Hi!

It's a pleasure to be writing to the UUCH community for the first time as your Contract Interim Minister! My family and I have been spending some time acquainting ourselves to the remarkable land, sea, and people here in Halifax/Kijuptuk.

I feel a deep sense of appreciation for both the beauty and hospitality here, and I am grateful to be welcomed into this community and country.

I have spent much of the last week in workshops with my fellow interim ministers across the North American Continent. One important takeaway from the workshops for me was the importance of not rushing into my ministry with you. Experiencing and understanding the complexities of a place, of course, takes time to truly understand. I arrive here, knowing something of the history of this place, and I look forward to immersing myself in its present as we imagine and live into our future as well.

My role as your interim minister is to help you discover the path of your future. My hope is that over the course of the fall, we can allow ourselves the time we need to get to know, understand, and appreciate each other. Our task together is to dream, imagine, and become the future of Unitarian Universalism here.

We don't become something from nothing of course, but rather we become using the building blocks of matter and energy that are already present.

So, as we get to know one another, I will be asking you lots of questions. Who are you? What's your essence, your substance? What substrates do we have to work with? What will catalyze your transformation? What kind of energy do we have to put into the equation? What products are we hoping for? What variables can we control? And perhaps most importantly, how much are we willing to experiment and are we willing to have our hypotheses and our assumptions continually troubled and challenged?

These are exciting questions for me, and I hope that you're looking forward to it as much as I am!

I also want to let you know that I am planning on hosting some meet and greet opportunities for you to get to know me and ask questions. Stay tuned for more info about that! In the meantime, feel free to visit my ministry website, revisraelbuffardi.com to learn about me.

I look forward to meeting you as well at our Ingathering Water Ceremony on Sunday, the 11th of September.

Warmly, Israel

Board Buzz

Where I live, the poplar trees are starting to turn, a little orange amongst the green. It's just a little sign that the cycle of the year is turning with hints of back to school, shorter days, and cooler temperatures.

UUCH is anticipating change in September, and like my trees, the hints are in the air.

Rev. Israel Buffardi officially started on August 15 and has already attended a Board Meeting, a Worship Committee Meeting, and is slowly getting to know all things UUCH. His first service will be Sunday, September 11.

September 11 also marks the occasion of Children and Youth Religious Exploration.

I was hoping that by the time you read this, our new deck would be completed. The build took longer than expected since extra work was needed where the old deck was connected to the building. There are always lots of fun surprises in a 200-year-old building; but the work will be finished in September. I can't wait for us to be enjoying our coffee out there again and the new deck will be as sunny as the old one so I anticipate coffee on the deck on warm winter days as well!

The Building Committee has also overseen the first stage of new landscaping of the front of the building.

Retreat! We have been unable to hold a congregational retreat since 2019! We are pleased to announce that there will be a retreat on Saturday, September 24. We will be holding the retreat at 5500 Inglis—an opportunity to enjoy our new deck!

We are also already looking forward to a couple of special events in October: the return of the Thanksgiving potluck and a special service to recognize the 50th anniversary of UUCH's official support of the Halifax Gay Alliance.

Many other teams, committees, and opportunities will no doubt arise in September so keep your eyes on your inboxes.

It is unclear at the time of writing what the future of the Saturday Brunch is. It is my great hope that we find the volunteers to continue offering this valuable service to our community.

What is very clear is that even though the changing colours, lower temperatures, and shorter days are the harbinger of winter, UUCH is at the cusp of a rebirth.

Welcome back!

Pam Griffin-Hody
President
UUCH Board of Directors

UUCH Board of Directors

June 2022 – May 2023

Officers

President	Pam Griffin-Hody
Vice-president	TBF
Past President	Troy Saulnier
Secretary	Molly Hurd
Co-Treasurers	Marilyn Shinyei Darla Muzzerall

Members at large

Avard Woolaver	Page Wakarchuk
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From the Caring Team

We are sorry to learn that due to 'renovictions' **Wendy Ozon**, a member since February 1995 (27 years!) found out some months ago that she would have to vacate her apartment where she has lived, also for 27 years. She feels fortunate that her sister has invited her to share her home with her—but with mixed emotions for Wendy as this will mean a move to Summerside, PEI. She leaves on September 20th. Wendy, we wish you the best in your new life in Summerside!

We were saddened to learn that **John Paterson**, a gentle soul and long-time member, died on August 18th. He will be missed. Watch for more information via UUinfo, or in the October newsletter.

Mike Belland still struggles with health issues but remains ever cheerful—and trooper that he is, he remains dedicated to watering the many plants that surround our church building, even on the hottest days. Thank you, Mike, your efforts are evident and very much appreciated.

Danielle Saulnier (our RE chair) and **Katherine Hutka** (a former board member) are now fully CUC-trained as Unitarian Universalist lay chaplains as announced at the May AGM. UU chaplains create and perform rites of passage including weddings, child dedications and memorial services. Lay chaplains provide these outreach services to people in the larger community and as necessary, to people who want a religious or spiritual ceremony in UU congregations without an available minister. Danielle and Katherine, both capable professionals, are ready and prepared to be called upon to fulfill their caring roles.

Fall is in the air, students will soon be back in school, and like me, others are looking forward to being together at church again and getting to know our new minister, **Rev. Israel Buffardi, his wife Abigail and their daughter Nicola**. Do be sure to introduce yourself and show them what a welcoming congregation we are.

Sylvia Mattinson
Chair, Caring Team



Dining out With UU Friends

Last December the Caring Team published an invitation in this newsletter to members and friends to gather once a month for lunch and fellowship at the Resolutes Club on Inglis Street. That did not happen because of pandemic restrictions and poor weather. Conditions are now entirely different and we are extending the invitation anew.

The group will gather to leave the church at 12:15 **on the third Sunday** of the month to go to the club.



The club, aka “the Rez” (interior shown above) is just a short walk from the church. It is a private, non-profit organization of many years' standing. It is well-run, licensed, and offers hearty Canadian fare, efficient table service—and the atmosphere is always friendly. As a private club, the menu prices are lower than those of commercial restaurants.

The club officially suggests a maximum of four guests to be signed in per club member but management does allow generous flexibility on this rule.

Please contact Shripad or Etta (both members) to get your name in **during the week leading up to the third Sunday, including Saturday evening the day before**. Joining in on the Sunday will also be possible at times.

Our first outing will be on **Sunday, September 18th**. We hope to hear from members and friends.

Shripad Pendse
shripen@yahoo.ca 902-225-9663

Etta Hamm
braeside@eastlink.ca 902-443-8779

Religious Exploration for Children & Youth

Welcome to a new church year of Religious Exploration.

We ended last year's program on a festive note in June with an overnight camping trip at Dollar Lake.

We enjoyed swimming at the beach, cooking hot dogs over a fire, roasting marshmallows, making sparkler displays and following fireflies. It was lots of fun!

Programming starts on Sunday, September 18th. I look forward to rekindling our connections to each other, to our faith and to our community.



***Marie-Claude Leroux
Director
RE Program for Children & Youth***



Join the Atlantic Climate Strike to demand real climate leadership.

Ban coal, reliable EV charging network, protection for our green belt and biodiversity, implementation of Lahey recommendations, easy to access financing for business and home retrofits.

Prepare to strike from work and school.

We need all of you for our youth Friday Sept. 23rd - 2022!

Let's have a UUCH group join this march to show our support for Climate Action! Gather at Victoria Park, 11 am, Sept 23. Read all about it at fridaysforfuture.ca Margaret for the Climate Crisis Team

Who's interested?

Thanks to the dedication of our hard-working volunteers, UUCH's participation in Pride 2022 was a great success! I am wondering now whether there are any UUCH queer folk out there interested in getting together informally, to not only start thinking about next year's Pride, but also to explore how we might be a resource for our church community throughout the year. If you have any ideas or thoughts on this, please let me know.

Doug Fevens

902-453-9391

DGFevens@gmail.com

Lost your name tag? Or maybe you want to refresh your old one? No problem—your Membership Committee has you covered. On September 4th we'll have a table set up with stencils, stickers and markers. And there'll be other dates in September if needed!

Pam Berman

Membership Chair

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for contributions for the October newsletter is **Tuesday, September 27.**



Please send your items to Etta at braeside@eastlink.ca

Regular Monthly Meetings

Group	Recurrence	Group lead
Religious Exploration	1st Wednesday, 8 pm	Marie-Claude Leroux
Committee on Shared Ministry	1st Thursday, 7 pm	Israel Buffardi
Worship Team	2nd Tuesday, 7 pm	Israel Buffardi
Climate Crisis Team	2nd Wednesday, 7 pm	Margaret Galbraith
Building Team	2nd Thursday, time TBA	Troy Saulnier
Caring Team	3rd Tuesday, 7 pm	Sylvia Mattinson
Board of Directors	3rd Wednesday, 6:30 pm	Pam Griffin-Hody
Reconciliation and Dismantling Racism	4th Tuesday, 7:30 pm	Brian Gifford
Membership	4th Thursday, 7:30 pm	Pam Berman

Any member or friend of the congregation is welcome to attend these meetings (except for Caring) as observer or participant.



CUC Online Events for Congregations

Click here: <https://cuc.ca/events-calendar/>

The September calendar will appear!

Click on the program titles that interest you for all the details

Be inspired, join, learn, grow, enjoy!

Canadian Unitarian Council

Interdependence. Love. Justice.

www.cuc.ca

September 11
Ingathering — Blending of the Waters



Bring a friend