

Newsletter of the Universalist Unitarian Church of Halifax

Vol. 59, No 11 **August 2023**

Summer Services: The August Edition

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

902-429-5500 uuchurch@eastlink.ca uuch.ca

Sunday services start at 10:30 am

Our congregation is lay led at present

Jessica Friesen Music Director

Pam Griffin-Hody Board President

Etta Hamm Newsletter Editor

All are welcome

August continues our summer "Coffee and Conversation" series. July held many conversations, one interactive art service, and one *ad hoc* service caused by flood cancellations. Summer may be laid back (and always lay led) but seldom boring at UUCH.

The Zoom link stays the same from week to week and can be found at the top left of our web page at uuch.ca. If you need an ID and Password it's: ID: 666 004 431 Password: 010670.

August: Coffee and Conversation

August 6 – Poetry

Poems. They come in many forms. We all have one or more that have special meaning for us. Whether written by you, someone famous or someone unknown, bring your poems or song lyrics to read to the community and tell us why you like them. **Mary Lu MacDonald** will lead the conversation.

August 13 - Music

Jessica Freisen, our Music Director, will lead us in a musical service. We'll celebrate the summer with singalongs, drum circles and by discussing what music means to you. Come lighten your load through this creative and interactive service.

August 20 (postponed from July 23) – The Practice of Practice

In this interactive service we'll explore the nature of a practice as a means to help us connect with ourselves or whatever our version may be of a divine. Bring your sense of curiosity and fun. This will be led by **Joe Britto, Mary-Frances Lynch and Andrea Dewar.**

August 27 – The Importance of Showing Up

Pam Berman will talk about her experiences volunteering at the North American Indigenous Games, which hopefully will spark a discussion about volunteerism and being an ally.



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.

Over my head, I hear excitement in the air, there must be a retreat somewhere ...

UUCH Congregational Retreat Saturday, August 19 9:30 to 12:30 Followed by lunch

Fellow congregational members, fellow seekers, and fellow travellers!



UUCH will be holding a Retreat to discuss the future of UUCH (what we want that future to be and how we will get there as a community). Joe Britto, our new VP, will lead the congregation in a Visioning Workshop.

This used to be an annual summer event for UUCH; but for the past three years was stymied first in 2020 and 2021 by Covid, then in 2022 by Fiona. We frequently held this at another beautiful location. Alas, that location is fully booked, and besides we have that glorious new deck to enjoy!

This will be followed by a light lunch at 12:30 — and we can socialize and/or continue the discussions as long as you would like. The Board will be retreating into the Minister's Study at 1:30 to hold their own retreat; most of which will be spent in deciding how to implement the congregational themes decided on during the morning retreat.

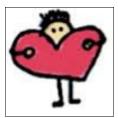
Please Come!

Please RSVP to <u>president@uuch.ca</u> by August 17 so that we know how much food to buy.



From the Caring Committee

We have spoken with **Katherine Hutka** (a UUCH member) and can pass on further information



regarding the recent catastrophic flood damage to their home on Seawood Avenue, Lr. Sackville. The ground floor is ruined; the house is unsafe and unlivable. The house's electrical panel was under water and must be replaced before power can be restored. It may be a long time before the Hutka property is habitable. Katherine and her daughter Miranda are with Katherine's mother; Katherine's husband Adam and their son Rohan are with Adam's father, so they are okay for the time being.

Sarah Bent (also a member) and her three children also lived in the house and are now homeless. Sarah's children are now with family in Canso. Sarah is looking for housing for herself and her children so they can be reunited by September in the Lr. Sackville—Bedford area, hopefully in time for the start of school. Sarah works for the CSAP as an early childhood educator at École du Grand Portage. Her children are aged 9, 12, and 15 and fairly quiet kids. They are a non-smoking, pet-free family. Do you know of a possible safe, semi-permanent, affordable housing solution for this family? Sarah's number is below.

Seawood Avenue neighbours have been kind in providing emergency supplies. UUCH members and friends who wish to donate gift cards or cheques for needs for both these families (while clearly stating what they are for) may put them in the collection on Sunday, or mail them to UUCH, or send an e-transfer to treasurer@uuch.ca – although tax receipts cannot be issued for donations to individuals. If you can help in other ways, please contact Katherine at 902-220-2122 and/or Sarah at 902-880-3119.

Anne Knight-Gorman recently spent a week in hospital following a mild stroke, and more than a week at the NS Rehab Centre where she regained full mobility and motor skills. She is now pretty well back to her usual routine including her daily walks, and with caution, driving. We're glad it was a mild one, Anne. Take care!

Sylvia Mattinson Caring Committee Chair

Church Directory Updates

New members:

BRITTO, Joe <u>joebrittomac@gmail.com</u>

778-773-0770

McMAHON, Sawyer 410–83 Kearney Lake Rd sawyermc@outlook.co

410–83 Kearney Lake Rd

204-930-3086

Halifax, NS B3M 4E6

Other new members' info was previously published.

Picnic in the Park Postponed

The group ferry ride from Halifax to Dartmouth for a picnic at the Ferry Park scheduled for July 28th was postponed to a future date when the weather is more predictable. Watch for that date! Contact: Linda at linda-cherry@att.net

UUCH Board of Directors June 2023 – May 2024

Officers

President Pam Griffin-Hody

Vice-president Joe Britto
Past President Troy Saulnier

Treasurer TBF

Secretary Molly Hurd

Members at large

Avard Woolaver Mary Frances Lynch

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for contributions for the September newsletter is Monday, Aug 28th

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

