

U.U. & you

newsletter of the universalist unitarian church of halifax

Vol. 49, No 5
January 2015

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

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

Rev. Norm Horofker
Minister
Office Hours
Tues, Wed, Fri 10-3
Cell 902-229-9239

Sandra Jamieson
Office Administrator
Office hours
Mon, Wed, Fri 10-3

Deborah Wiggins
Music Director

Emily Dodge
RE Director

Kim Turner
President

Newsletter
Etta Hamm
Sandra Jamieson

Sunday service
10:30 am
All are welcome
Children & Youth Education
Child care available



Wishing everyone good health
and good times in the New Year

January 4

Presenter: Rev. Norm Horofker; Service Assistant: Marilyn Shinyei

Hope, Anticipation and Expectation – A Stoic’s Guide — *The very least you can do in your life is to figure out what you hope for. And the most you can do is live inside that hope.* — Barbara Kingsolver. Rev. Norm will present a Stoic’s view of the role of hope, anticipation and expectation in “the good life.”

January 11

Presenter: Rev. Helen McFadyen; Service Assistant: Rev. Norm Horofker

Hope: Making Audacious Music With a Solitary String — Using the painting, **Hope** by George Frederic Watts (1886) as a backdrop, Helen McFadyen will offer reflection on the theme of “hope” for Unitarian Universalists in an oft-troubling world. In Watts’ painting, Hope is depicted sitting on a globe, blindfolded, clutching a wooden lyre with only one string left intact. She sits in a hunched position, her head leaning towards the instrument, perhaps so she can hear the faint music she might make with the sole remaining string.

January 18

Presenter: Rev. Norm Horofker; Service Assistant: Louise Malloch

“The Contradictions of Life are Not in Themselves either Final or Ultimate” — This quotation from Howard Thurman can open the door to a sustained hope in the face of seemingly hopeless situations. Rev. Norm will explore how we might nurture this sustained and sustaining hope.

January 25

Presenter: Rev. Norm Horofker; Service Assistant: Sass Minard

Hope for Religion in a Secular World — Atheists are sometimes referred to as “non-believers” by those with fundamental religious views. Atheists may not believe in God, but clearly most atheists believe in some basis for social order. Rev. Norm will explore the idea of “Essential Beliefs for Non-believers” and how this concept might be a basis for religious community that is not God-centered.



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

January 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 10:30 am Pancake Breakfast	2	3
4 9 am Chalice Singers 12 noon Worship Committee	5	6 11:30am - 3:30pm Library	7 4:45-6:15 pm After Choir	8	9	10
11 9 am Chalice Singers Library Book Display before & after service 12 pm Potluck Welcome for Ethiopian Refugees 12 pm Soc Resp meeting	12	13	14 4:45-6:15 pm After Choir 6:30 Board Meeting	15 6:30 pm Spiritual Show& Tell with Potluck Dinner	16	17 2:00 pm Ordination of Helen McFadyen at Rockingham United , reception following 7-9 pm DUP
18 9 am Chalice Singers 12 pm Humanist Group D4\$ hosts' Deadline to offer dinners	19	20	21 4:45-6:15 pm After Choir	22	23	24 Hike to Shubie Canal Ruins See page 8
25 9 am Chalice Singers Social Responsibility Soup Lunch Fundraiser 12 - 2 pm Salon on Church Organization Sign-up for D4\$ today & next Sunday	26 10 am Newsletter deadline 7-9 pm Ukulele Group	27	28 4:45-6:15 pm After Choir	29	30	31 <hr/> Feb 1 → 12:30 – 2:30 pm Planned Giving Workshop

Salon on Church Organization – Sunday January 25th, 12 to 2:00 pm



Following the service on the 25th, grab a bowl of soup and then join a workshop discussion on how we can better ensure that our congregation gets the services and programs that it wants.

Our church by-laws and other documents call for a number of standing committees that are charged with organizing the church's various programs under the general direction of the Board and of the congregational meetings. Some committees exist; some consist of a single individual, and others rely on individuals agreeing to organize special events on a once-off basis.

Even in those cases where we have a functioning committee, we don't have set terms for the committee's chair or its members, so chairs end up serving longer than they wish to because they can't find their replacement. We are a small congregation; how many committees can we support?

This salon is a chance to discuss some of these issues and make suggestions for an effective organizational structure that doesn't eat its members.

Childcare will be available. We hope to see and hear you there.

Allyn Clarke
For the Board of Management

Minister's Notes

December was a pleasure in so many ways. The services around Christmas were well attended and fun to be part of. The third annual Blue Christmas Service at Bearly's House of Blues, pictured here, was the best yet, thanks to the participation of so many.

I have been taking in more and more local musicians and recently attended a performance by two-time Juno Award winner, Old Man (Chris) Leudecke. On the way out, I introduced myself as the minister of the Universalist Unitarian Church and Chris responded "Oh you're the guy who drives that yellow Jeep!" I was smiling for the rest of the night and woke up smiling the next morning!



I feel like we are on the cusp of significant change in the way we see ourselves as a congregation. People regularly send me articles about the new forms of "church" that are seeking new members. Often these churches are advertised for atheists and agnostics. There is almost always an undertone that anyone believing in a God, no matter how they would define the concept, would not be welcome.

Most of the people looking for a new form of church have never heard of Unitarian Universalism and that is so frustrating because we have so much to offer them. We are radically inclusive and provide religious community for people of all faiths or none. I hope that you will feel comfortable inviting a friend to attend and that you will in fact do so. Word of mouth is our best form of advertising.

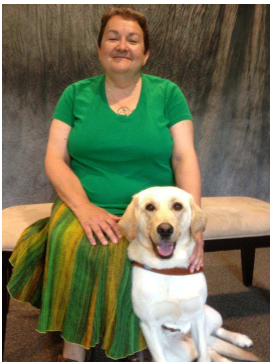
As you will read elsewhere in the newsletter, we will be taking the historically significant step of ordaining Helen McFadyen, a member of the congregation who has completed all the requirements for Unitarian Universalist Ministry. This is another great event to look forward to. Hope to see you there.

On another "note" we are continuing to develop and share the ideas of "Themed Church" as a way to focus our message and to involve more people in a variety of activities. The themes this year have been chosen to follow the rhythms of the seasons. The theme for January is "Hope", for February: "Yearning." If you have thoughts, poems, stories, music or personal experiences that you would like to share on these themes, please contact me!

Rev. Norm Horofker

Photo by Kim Turner

Helen McFadyen to be Ordained as UU Minister



This month we welcome home our own Helen McFadyen. Many of you know Helen's story and certainly you have all heard about the plans for her ordination. Just in case you missed any of it, here is a recap.

On January 10th 2015 the Universalist Unitarian Church of Halifax will ordain Helen as a Unitarian Universalist minister. This is the first time in our 177-year history that we ordain a member of the Halifax church.

Helen studied at the Atlantic School of Theology and obtained her Master's of Divinity over two years ago. She then went to Edmonton where she did a year-long chaplaincy placement at the University of Alberta Hospitals as part of her journey toward ministry. Her beautiful service dog, Camilla, proved to be a partner and an asset in Helen's work as a chaplain. For the last year and a-half she has been employed as a chaplain at a French Catholic seniors' facility in Edmonton. She is also currently enrolled in a PhD program.

Helen has done all of this in her late 50s and she is blind. She became blind 10-15 years ago and taught herself Braille. She also makes full use of the latest technology, "reading" papers and writing sermons on her computer. Not only that, for several years she was the church member in charge of our UUCH website. Can't imagine how she did that!

Welcome home Helen—may your life and your ministry be an inspiration and a blessing to many, for many fulfilling years.

All are invited to Helen's Ordination
January 10th, 2 pm
Rockingham United Church
12 Flamingo Drive, Halifax
Reception to follow in the RUC Hall

The Ordination Team

The Art of Michael Seary—a Gift



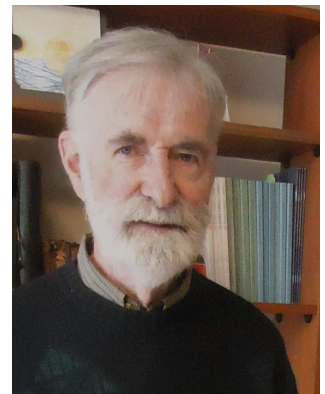
This happy little piece of news, discovered by one of our members, will delight those among us who know Michael Seary.

Michael was recently honoured when several framed reproductions of one of his abstract paintings were given to

the presenters of the 25th Provincial Alzheimer Conference recently held in Halifax.

With permission, we reproduce here an image of the painting and the article about Michael as published in the December issue of *Shannex Connections*:

“The beautiful abstract was painted by Michael Seary, an artist who expresses life through creating art. He has been practicing art since he was young and it has been a major part of his life ever since – as a student, an art teacher and activist in Ontario and Nova Scotia, a curator, and as founder of the Veith Street Gallery in Halifax.



“Michael was diagnosed with Alzheimers in May of 2012 and now lives at Parkland at the Gardens where he co-facilitates a studio program for fellow clients interested in exploring art.

“Michael says ‘A lot of people are attracted to art but think they know nothing about it, and feel they cannot do it. My experience is that art is for everyone who wishes to try.’

Thanks to Alain Godbout for the photo of Michael.

*Art is not a handicraft,
it is the transmission of feeling
the artist has experienced.*

~ Leo Tolstoy

**Annual Winter Warm-Up Coffeehouse
Saturday, February 28, 7 -10 pm**



This is your second nudge to record this evening in your calendars and to start 'getting your act together' for this special, annual, fun, fellowship event.

Always warm and cozy, and always welcoming and uplifting, it's just what we'll need to carry us through to spring!

If you know of someone you think would like to offer music, comedy, dance, poetry or anything else to entertain us on this special night, please encourage them to contact me. The event is open to all.

All performers, however, must let me know in advance to get into the **pre-scheduled** line-up.

I'm looking forward to it!

Deborah Wiggins
Music Director

**Print Perspectives
Library Book Display – January 11**

I am encouraged – even hopeful – that 2015 may be the year when more people are ready for active, open conversations about issues raised in recent books by First Nations writers.



Take Thomas King, for example: *The Inconvenient Indian* has already been widely read, and his newest title, *The Back of the Turtle*, offers a fictional perspective through a novel set in Canada. Chris Benjamin's newest book, *Indian School Road: Legacies of the Shubenacadie Residential School*, tackles residential schools, their foundations and their fallout in ensuing generations, both individually and institutionally.

These are not new questions for our community or for our library committees over the years. There are many titles in our catalogue, beginning with Daniel Paul's *We Were Not the Savages* which goes way back. At our last Library Committee meeting we clicked on the idea of a **book display on Sunday, January 11th**, before and after the service (with borrowing possible after 12:15) in the North Ballroom.

Come, take a look and borrow any one of these books. Read it and then, let's talk! Reconciliation is a two-way street.

Elizabeth Greenhavens
for the Library Committee

Planned Giving Workshop – February 1

Your Planned Giving/Endowment Trustees are planning a workshop for you, to take place on Sunday, February 1st.

This will be a 2-hour session after church from 12:30 to 2:30, with a lawyer present (our own James Morris), and a financial planner (Doug Oxner of RBC Dominion Securities). We also hope to have an insurance expert on the panel. We will explore the issues of estate planning and writing or updating a will. We will look at how charitable giving might feature in your estate planning, and options for leaving a lasting legacy to UUCH.



We hope to see you there. Please bring a bag lunch for yourself if you wish to.

Marilyn Shinyei

New Banner for Social Responsibility



The Social Responsibility Committee is planning to have a banner made that we will use for public rallies and demonstrations. People need to know who we are! The banner will be about 5x3 feet, and will say "Universalist Unitarians for Social Responsibility" with a chalice in the middle. It is expected to cost about \$200, so we are **fundraising** by providing lunch on **January 25th**. Please support our efforts!

Margaret Galbraith

The Religious Exploration Page

*Look deep into nature,
and then you will understand
everything better.*
~ Albert Einstein



Hello, all!

It was a joy to meet so many members of the congregation at the beginning of December. I was immensely grateful for the warm and supportive welcome I received from everyone. For those I have yet to meet, my name is Emily Dodge and I will be the RE Director until Christy returns from her maternity leave.

Originally from Boston, I attended Dalhousie University, and then moved back to Halifax after marrying my husband, Nicholas Buxton, who is in the Canadian Navy. I have an extensive background in outdoor and ecological education that I look forward to incorporating into the curriculum in the New Year.

This winter's curriculum will focus on our connection to nature. We will learn about our local ecosystem and animals, as well as how we can deepen our relationship to nature and our role in caring for the earth. We have many fun stories, crafts, and even some special field trips planned for this time. If you have any interest or knowledge in this area and would like to lend your skills, please contact me!

We are also looking at expanding the role of volunteers within the RE program. We would like to offer the opportunity for a non-teaching role within the program. If you would like to participate, but not take an active teaching role, please contact me to find a position that would be best suited to you.



To reach me, please email esdodge@gmail.com. I can also be reached at **902-817-1489** on Tuesdays from 12 to 3, and Thursdays from 8 to 12. Thank you all so much for your support and warm reception. I look forward to being a part of this wonderful community!

Happy winter!

Emily Dodge
Interim Director of Religious Exploration



Dining for Dollars Winter-Spring 2015

OK, discerning diners and happy hosts, we have January to shed those holiday pounds and get ready for another exciting round of D4\$!

Prospective hosts, please start considering the delectable treats you'd like to offer. It can be a repeat of something you've done before or something new. No previous experience is required, and old hands are welcome back! Please get your info to me **by January 18th** in any of the following ways:

- Email me at kay.kathy@ns.sympatico.ca
- Call me at 902-429-9665
- Or complete the form below and give it to me at church.

The new list of dining opportunities for late-February to end-June will be available online, and for sign-up at church on two Sundays only: January 25th (Robbie Burns' Day!) and February 1st.

Thank you to all past and future hosts and diners!

Kay Smith

My Dining for Dollars Offering

Host(s): _____

Name of event: _____

Date of event: _____

Time: _____

Place: _____

Max # of guests: _____

Description: _____

Potluck Welcome for Ethiopian Refugees January 11, 12 noon

There will be a UU Potluck Welcome for the four Ethiopian refugees at 12 o'clock noon on Sunday, January 11th. Everyone is welcome! Let's show these brave people our warmest Maritime hospitality.



If you would like to contribute or help in any way, please contact me at james.morrison@smu.ca—or 902-429-8094.

Jim Morrison

Reminder! Spiritual Show and Tell with Potluck Dinner – January 15

Thursday, January 15th at 6:30 pm, I (along with my mom, Deborah Wiggins) am pleased to host the inaugural monthly “Spiritual Show and Tell” evening. We will have up to six church members and friends presenting on an aspect of their personal spirituality while everyone enjoys a hearty potluck dinner. To request last month's article on this event (for a fuller description of the evening)—or to indicate interest in being a presenter, contact me at realm_dee@yahoo.ca—or 902-463-0988.



Devin Murphy

Subscribe to eNews

Canadian Unitarian *eNews* is the free, bi-monthly national e-newsletter of the Canadian Unitarian Council, distributed to members and friends of Canada's nearly 50 Unitarian, Universalist and UU congregations. Issues come out at the beginning of Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct and Dec. You can join the mailing list at cuc.ca/cuc-eneews. Anyone on this list will also receive an electronic copy of *The Canadian Unitarian*, twice yearly, spring and fall.



Ballroom Gallery
Visual Storytelling Art Exhibit
February 15 to end-March 2015



*Why should a vase
be an art object,
but not your life?*

The February-March exhibit is intended for you to tell us YOUR stories, to express your meaningful memories; to reveal your heart—what you love (or not); what makes you laugh (or weep); where you went, what happened, what you saw or did.

Going through photographs may help, for there you may find yourself on that perfect day at the beach; picking strawberries with your little sister; combing your mother's hair; standing in front of the little schoolhouse you attended; or hiking with UU friends.

Dare to use bold lines and lots of colour! Throw some words in—that always adds interest!

Please sign-up on the sheet on the bulletin board by the front door. Then start drawing, painting, appliqué-ing, molding, creating—and have it all done for hanging or display by **February 15th.**

Thank you everyone, for keeping our space colourful and interesting, and making our lives brighter with art.

Ella Wilson

Your Food-Inspired paintings will be available for pick-up before and after the service on Sunday, **February 1st.** Please pick them up. Thank you.

*Art has to move you and design does not,
unless it's good design for a bus.*
~ David Hockney

Hike to Shubie Canal Ruins at Portobello
Saturday, January 24

The January hike will explore the Shubie Canal structures on the northern end of the Shubie Multi-use Trail in Dartmouth. We will follow the old canal route as it flows from Lake Charles to Lake Williams, visiting the ruins of the dam that marked the end of Lake Charles. This dam supported inclined ramps that formed the foundation of a marine railway that carried boats between the lakes. The marine railroad was driven by a hydraulic turbine that was powered by the mill race that runs beside the inclined plane.



UUs on this trail in 2010

Most of the trail is a graded crushed stone trail designed for both hikers and cyclists; however, there is no winter maintenance on the trail so if winter actually comes, it may be icy in spots. The trails in and around the ruins themselves are woodland hiking trails.

Meet at the church at 12:30 or at the trailhead on the Waverly Road in Dartmouth at 1 pm. To get to the trailhead, follow the Waverly Road out of the city until you reach the first highway bridge crossing the road. A short paved road on the left leads to a foot-bridge over the Shubie Canal. Park here.

If you want a pick-up in Dartmouth, call me to arrange a time and location. If you are running late or have gotten lost in Dartmouth of Saturday morning, call me at 902-483- 4731.

Allyn Clarke

The Caring Column



A huge thank you to **Martha Wilson, Avard Woolaver, Lia and Jane** for filling the thirty 'Christmas Hampers' for the Building Bridges clients. Martha and Avard did the shopping and Lia and Jane filled the colourful Bulk Barn bags. Thank you also to all who gave gifts of food or money. Due to your generosity we were also able to donate thirty \$5 Tim Horton's gift cards.



Andy Blair and Claudia deFuentes welcomed the arrival of baby **Sarah**, a sister for Maya, on Dec 18th. Sarah weighed 3.38 kg (7.45 lbs). All went well—and we were happy to see the whole family at the Candlelight Service on the 21st!



Michael Smith is happy to announce that her daughter **Robin Armstrong** and her son-in-law **Scott**, welcomed a new baby sister to **Brynn** into the world on Dec 15th. **Evelynn Blake Smith-Armstrong** weighed 3.20 kg (7.06 lbs). Mom and baby (and grand-mom) are doing well.

Mary Ellen Onno

From PEI: Reflections on a Memorable UU Weekend in Halifax



Copied with permission from CUC eNews.

As I reflect on my attendance at the UU Fall Gathering in Halifax, I am grateful for the firsts that were added to my life that weekend: my first UU Gathering, my first trip to Nova Scotia, my first time seeing Ottawa UU friends since I moved, and my first time singing karaoke.

I am grateful for the fine hospitality, generosity, and creativity extended by the Halifax UUs! The workshop I attended ('Beyond Friendly') gave me ideas to share here in Charlottetown, on how we might expand our little PEI UU Fellowship. It felt like I was attending an enjoyable and practical university class. Involvement in the brainstorming sessions made me feel valued and appreciated; no matter one's background, feeling appreciated is good for the soul.

The dinner out turned into a welcome networking event, where I happened to sit with the folks from North Hatley, Québec. Like PEI's, their fellowship community is a small one. I think that our comparisons and contrasts were mutually beneficial.

Sunday's music and worship was a unique sharing experience. It made me grateful for the times of togetherness I have in my life, and made me want to add more. The amazing varieties of soup served afterward put 'soup' into a whole new culinary category for me!

On the ferry ride home from Nova Scotia to PEI (exciting for someone from Saskatchewan!) I thought about what a lovely weekend it had been, how I had grown spiritually, and how there is a lot of good in the world.

Paulette Lachambre
Charlottetown, PEI



Music Montage



Words of wisdom:

*“Music, self-played
is happiness self-made.”*

~ found on the top of an old ukulele

I encourage you, as a 2015 resolution,
to 'self-make' some happiness for
yourself and others, through music.

Our Annual Winter Warm-up Coffeehouse

This uplifting and fun fellowship event is scheduled for Saturday evening, February 28th. So, January is a good time to start getting your 'act together', literally. I will soon be looking for people to sign-up as entertainers; singers, instrumentalists, comedy acts, dancers, poets, drama skits. Single acts, duos and groups are all welcome. If you have friends who would like to contribute, please encourage them to get in touch with me. Be sure to mark it on your calendar now.

January's 'Singing as We Gather'

The Gathering Hymn for this month is #55 *Dark of Winter*. In the depth of the winter season, this hymn soothes with its beautiful melody and thoughtful lyrics, which seem to gently coax hope, the theme for January. I especially like the following lines: *“Dark of winter, soft and still, your quiet calm surrounds me. Let my thoughts go where they will; ease my mind profoundly. And then my soul will sing a song, a blessed song of love eternal.”*

The Chalice Singers

The Chalice Singers are open to anyone who likes to sing, and to contribute each month to the Sunday services. We rehearse each Sunday morning at 9:00 am. You do not need to be able to read music to join this welcoming choir.

The Family Singers

The Family Singers are for all ages and all stages of singers, and offer music for services that is easy to learn and sing. *The Chalice Singers* provide a base of support for this group, so relax and join in.

qUUartet

qUUartet is our 4-part singing group. This music ensemble provides opportunities for more advanced singers to use their skills at harmony and independent learning with more challenging material. They also support *The Chalice Singers* now and then. *qUUartet* meets occasionally before services.

The After Choir

The After Choir (our folk/rock group) meets most Wednesdays, from approximately 4:45 to 6:15 pm. Contact James at jamesmorris@morrisbureau.com to confirm dates and times.

Deborah Wiggins

Music Director

uuchmusic@yahoo.ca

902-463-0988



Wayside Pulpit Trainee Are you interested in learning how to maintain the Wayside Pulpit (the wooden display structure for those eye-catching quotations on the church's front lawn)? The job is simply to change the poster (of which we have a large supply) every couple of weeks or so. You can also have new ones made if exploring your creative side. This is a no-pressure job with flexible hours—*no, minutes!* Let's keep the long-time tradition of the UU Wayside Pulpit alive. Please contact me at 902-229-9239 or nhorofker@aol.com. **Rev. Norm Horofker**

Floral Decorator(s) Wouldn't it be lovely to be part of a "floral group"—to help make the sanctuary elegant for Sunday services? Two people have already offered. With a few more (however many) we could take turns and keep things doable. I would be part of such a group myself. Ideally, a coordinator would sprout from within the group. Even the sporadic sponsoring of flowers (still encouraged) would benefit from coordinating. We could meet at a convenient time and hear everyone's ideas. I would be happy to give floral direction, then or any time. See me, or email: vchapman@eastlink.ca. **Valerie Chapman**

Snow Shoveler(s) I'm looking for a snow shoveler or two. We have a plow that clears the driveways and the city eventually does the city sidewalk. We need a shoveler early in the morning or soon after a snowfall. You would clear the snow from the sidewalk and driveway to the door, paths to the back door, the back porch and the fire escape to the second floor. You can volunteer or be paid an hourly rate. **Allyn Clarke**

Join the Blue Bag Team I'm also looking for up to three volunteers to gather the empty bottles we accumulate in the church basement, and take them to the Enviro-Depot on Mitchell Street (a block from the church) for refund. This needs doing about every three months. If we can bring our number back up to four, each of us will need to do the job only once a year. A car is needed for this. See me after church or contact me: 902-420-0632—allyn420@aol.com. **Allyn Clarke**

Sunday Service Volunteers

Jan 4

Greeting Kathy Anthony, Sass Minard
Ushering Kay Smith, Kathy Anthony (e)
Janet Horofker (l)
Kitchen Norm Sabowitz (set-up)
Sass Minard (clean-up)
Audio Devin Murphy
Library Valerie Chapman

Jan 11

Greeting Wietske Gradstein,
Anne Knight-Gorman
Ushering Valerie Chapman (e)
Sylvia Mattinson (l)
Kitchen Norm Sabowitz (set-up)
Anne Knight-Gorman (clean-up)
Audio Avard Woolaver
Library Stephen Butler

Jan 18

Greeting Michael Seary, Margaret Galbraith
Ushering Andy Blair (e)
Margaret & Paul Galbraith (l)
Kitchen Norm Sabowitz (set-up)
Stephen Butler (clean-up)
Audio Paul Galbraith
Library Norma McPhee

Jan 25

Greeting Sandra Clarke, Sylvia Mattinson
Ushering Eileen Ross (e) Sylvia Mattinson (l)
Kitchen Norm Sabowitz (set-up)
Sandra Clarke, Kathy Spencer (clean-up)
Audio Nick Baros-Johnson
Library Alison Chipman

To join the Sunday Service Support Team please contact Wietske Gradstein, 835-9272.

The deadline for submissions for the February newsletter is Monday, January 26th (another one-week extension).



Think You're Busy?

On the recent Human Rights Day, Bruce Knotts, Director of the UU-UNO, began his day discussing disarmament, peace and security with members of the UN Security Council.

Then he met with a committee of the Decade of People of African Descent. After that, on to the high-level discussion "Love is a Family Value" on sexual orientation, gender identity and human rights with the UN's Under-Secretary-General. Next, a stop at the Baha'i Center for a meeting on "Business and Religious Freedom". He then attended a class reunion of the Monterey Institute of International Studies at the Lincoln Center. Lastly, he took a train to the UUA Headquarters in Boston. Definitely more than I could do in one day!

On another topic: For a number of years now, there has been a pressing need for reform of the United Nations Organization. It has become increasingly apparent that the process of selecting a candidate for the role of the UN Secretary General is ineffective and must change.

As UN leader, the role of the Secretary-General (currently filled by Ban Ki Moon, South Korea) has grown significantly in scope and importance since the UN's creation in 1945. The Secretary-General is responsible for ensuring that the UN is capable of solving the world's most significant and complex problems. Secretaries-General play an important role in driving governments to address climate change, promote sustainable development, tackle mass atrocities and protect fundamental human rights. Through their mediation efforts they help to prevent and stop wars, and serve to uphold the values and ideals of humankind as embodied by the UN Charter. The Secretary-General works with 193 Member States, leads over 40,000 staff, and oversees the work of 30 UN funds, programmes and agencies, which deal with a wide range of global development and humanitarian issues.

While the UN Organization and its responsibilities have grown substantially over the past 70 years, the selection process for its leader has been defined, if at all, by customary, informal and outdated practices. For more information go to www.1for7billion.org.

Valerie Chapman
UU-UNO Envoy

Church Leadership Books Available

Don't forget, if heading up a church committee, developing a new initiative, or thinking ahead to the January 25th Salon (page 2), we have lots of books on church leadership topics right here at UUCH.

The CUC, with the aim of setting up regional libraries, gave a large number of books to one of the New Brunswick fellowships who then passed a lot of them on to us. The books, new and old, are shelved alphabetically by title in my office. Come and have a look. My office hours generally, are Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 am to 3 pm.



Rev. Norm Horofker

UUCH Board of Management June 2014 to May 2015

President	Kim Turner
Vice-President	Molly Hurd
Past President	Allyn Clarke
Secretary	Pam Berman
Treasurer	Darla Muzzerall

Members at Large:

Andy Blair
Lauren Larsen
Jim Morrison
Faith Piccolo



Covenant

The Universalist Unitarian Church of Halifax

Compassion is the doctrine of our church, the quest for truth its Sacrament, and Justice its prayer. To grow in understanding through dialogue and freedom, to support each other's dance with life, to engage the Earth in peace, to the end that we speak ourselves into Community and her each other into being. Thus do we covenant with each other and with the Universe.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

—225—

If you do not
hope, you will
not find what
is beyond
your hopes.

ST. CLEMENT OF ALEXANDRIA