



Theme for January 2019: Intention

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
Lunch-12 to 1pm

RE Director
Tanya Bilsbury

Margaret Galbraith
President

Newsletter
Etta Hamm
Sylvia Mattinson
Sandra Jamieson

Sunday service
10:30 am

All are welcome

Children & Youth Education
Child care available

January 6

Intentions vs Resolutions—a New Year's Challenge

By January 6 our “New Year’s Resolutions” should already be made, and perhaps they have already been broken... We all fall short of our ideals but it is our will to get back up and try again that is the source of our hope. Presenter: Rev. Norm Horofker; Service Assistant: Alan Snow

January 13

Intentionally Living a UU Life

Do our Seven Principles provide a guide for living a “UU Life?” The interpretation of those principles and their actualization in our lives is something we each do based on our unique circumstances and abilities. Presenter: Rev. Norm Horofker; Service Assistant: Page Wakarchuck

January 20

The World that Could Be—Why Inequality Matters

When the robots make the robots that make all the stuff we need, the end of repetitive drudgery should be good news for humanity. But increasing inequality can also paralyze our ability to deal with crucial issues like climate change. The choice is ours to make. Lars' address follows the recent release of his book “The Age of Increasing Inequality: The Astonishing Rise of Canada's 1%”. Presenter: Lars Osberg; Service Leader: James Morris

January 27




What do you plan to do with the rest of your wild and precious life? That paraphrase of a line from a Mary Oliver poem is the perfect title for the last sermon in a series on “intention.” Presenter: Rev. Norm Horofker; Service Assistant: Marie Welton

Theme for February: Perseverance

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



January 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 	2 4:45–6:15 Afterchoir	3 9:30–11:30 am Parents & Tots	4	5 10–11:30 am UU Brunch
6 12 noon Worship committee	7	8 1:00 pm Caring Committee	9 4:45–6:15 pm Afterchoir	10 9:30–11:30 am Parents & Tots Noon Tai Chi 6:30 Board meeting	11	12 10--11:30 am UU Brunch
13 1:00– 4:00 pm Truth & Reconciliation Reflection Session	14	15	16 4:45–6:15 pm Afterchoir	17 9:30–11:30 am Parents & Tots Noon Tai Chi	18	19 10–11:30 am UU Brunch
20 12 noon Humanist Group 12 noon Intro to UUism with Rev. Norm 1:00–4:00 pm Truth & Reconciliation Reflection Session	21	22	23 4:45–6:15 pm Afterchoir	24 9:30–11:30 am Parents & Tots Noon Tai Chi	25	26 10–11:30 am UU Brunch
27 1:00–4:00 pm Truth & Reconciliation Reflection Session	28 12 noon Newsletter deadline	29	30 4:45–6:15 pm Afterchoir	31 9:30–11:30 am Parents & Tots Noon Tai Chi		

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for submissions for the February newsletter
is 12 noon, **Monday, January 28th.**

Please send your submissions to both

braeside@eastlink.ca

and

uuchurch@eastlink.ca

Minister's Notes



Why are you reading this?

I do a lot of formal writing in a year... sermons and newsletter columns included. That thought occurs to me as I face another newsletter deadline. I think writing would be more fun without deadlines, but I know I would procrastinate and, in the end, do much less of what I claim to enjoy.

Why do I like the process of writing? Because it takes me places of deep reflection and introspection, and I know that if I am to make sense of my life, if I am to give meaning to my existence, I have to do this hard work. It is in the process of deep reflection that I define my significance, the small role that I play in the grand human experiment. And so I write to give meaning to my life.

I think I understand why I write these words, but I am not sure I understand why you are reading them, (and I know that the reader is in a minority of those who are members and friends of the congregation... thank you!) This is not a criticism of those who will not read these words. There is so much wonderful material to read, so many truly great thinkers and authors, not to mention YouTube videos and TED Talks and CBC Radio programs.

And yet many of you are reading these words, and perhaps even more miraculously many of you will come to church regularly on Sunday to hear me speak other words I have written. With all the great writers and speakers that you have access to, why do you do it? Why are you reading this now?

There was a time when the minister was considered to be the most highly-educated and wisest person in the congregation in matters related to living a good life. The rules for what it meant to lead a good life were spelled out in scripture and in the rigid cultural norms of the time. Today, with the broad access to formal education, the many informal educational opportunities, the amazing variety of life experience in the congregation, and the fluid "norms" of an interconnected world, I recognize that I am not uniquely qualified to instruct you in these matters... no better qualified than you are yourself.

So, perhaps you are reading this, not because I am different than you are. Maybe you are reading this because we are so much alike... but you have given me a responsibility. In the honoured position of your minister, you have provided me with the time and the responsibility to do deep reflection, to try to make sense of it all, and to share the outcome and the process with you.

If I am right on this, then I need to be listening deeply to you and to your concerns so that my writing and our Sunday services will speak directly to your concerns. This customization of material for your needs, presented by someone you know and can challenge and test is something you won't get on a TED Talk or a CBC radio program.

We have launched a new Worship Committee approach which will make this dialogue between minister and congregation even more rewarding. Watch for more news and I hope you will participate.

And thanks for reading this... regardless of your reason for doing so.

**With Love,
Norm**

Board Buzz

First I would like to offer a sincere thank-you to all who have fulfilled their pledges for 2018 and those who have committed to pledge for 2019. The funding we receive through pledges enables us to continue to fuel our spiritual growth and create positive change in the world around us.

Via online surveys we are receiving additional insight for the music task force as well as for our "UUCH Vision, Mission and Values". Thank you to Paul Galbraith for designing and managing the surveys and to all the respondents. More information will follow after board discussion in January.

As 2018 comes to a close, we hope you reflect on all the great things we were able to accomplish in the year just past, and consider challenges and opportunities for the year ahead.

Happy New Year to you all!



Troy Saulnier
Vice-president
UUCH Board of Directors

The Caring Column

We are sorry to learn that **Tanya Bilsbury** continues to have health challenges; we wish her better days ahead as the new year unfolds.



Thank you to all those who have helped us carry out our tasks over the 2018 year. Both the members of the Caring Committee and those who benefited from your help are truly appreciative of the support you provided.

We send our best wishes to members and friends for a happy, healthy and peaceful year in 2019!

Sylvia Mattinson

RE Fun

Volunteers are needed to help out with the Religious Exploration program for children in January while Tanya is on medical leave. To volunteer or inquire, please email Danielle, RE chair, at danielle.t.saulnier@gmail.com



UUCH Board of Directors

June 2018 – May 2019

Officers

President	Margaret Galbraith
Vice-President	Troy Saulnier
Past President	Kim Turner
Secretary	Shripad Pendse
Treasurer	Marilyn Shinyei

Members at Large

Pam Berman	Mia Huh
Ginny Girard	Pam Griffin-Hody

Truth & Reconciliation Reflection Series

The following dates remain:
January 13, 20, 27 — 1:00-4:00 pm

Participation is now limited to those who attended earlier sessions.

The Hampers Report

The 2018 Christmas hampers project was a big success, thanks to the immense generosity of the congregation who contributed a whopping \$877.00! Everyone had a great time shopping and assembling the bags. This was the final year for Lia and Jane to build the hampers. Together with the Saulnier children they made up 31 hampers—while singing Christmas songs--then an impromptu jam session ensued after every bag was filled.



Each hamper contained special savoury foods, sweet treats, warm wool socks and festive gifts. Due to a surplus of items from the church bazaar and items that the Saulniers contributed, also included were things like mugs for the hot cocoa and tea and various holiday items. They were tied off with nice tissue paper just like any gift. The Saulnier children wrote holiday cards for each hamper. It is really great to emphasize the importance of giving for the kids.

Marg from the Halifax Mental Health Association was extremely grateful for the support our congregation gives to those they represent.

Thanks and Happy New Year!

Danielle and Troy Saulnier

Ol' Saint Nick visits UUCH!



If you were at the Candlelight service on Christmas Eve you saw Santa with your own eyes! What a surprise, especially considering the busy night that lay ahead for him—and yet he took the time to have this picture taken. Children and adults alike (all of whom were very good all year) were delighted! Many thanks to Phil Silver, a Saturday morning brunch helper and real Santa at heart.



The CUC's Nominating Committee is inviting expressions of interest from or on behalf of individuals in congregations who are interested in serving on the CUC Board or the Nominating Committee beginning in May 2019. We aim to encourage diversity and to balance youthful perspectives with

senior experience in leadership. CUC Board Members are elected at the Annual General Meeting in May for a three-year term.

We are searching for one board nominee in the Eastern Region (Kingston ON to Nova Scotia) to begin terms in May 2019. Download the CUC's Call for Nominations 2019 for the Board of Trustees and Nominating Committee. Submit expressions of interest **by January 8** to: nominations@cuc.ca.

Gathered Here, the new monthly online check-in for Canadian Unitarian Universalist young adults will meet on **January 14** and **February 11** at 9 pm Atlantic. Join in with UU 18-35 year-olds for sharing of joys and concerns, deeper check-ins, prayerful reflections, and an opportunity to process current events with a spiritually grounded community.



A quiet winter moment in our church's back yard.
Etta Hamm

