



## *Sunday Services for July*

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

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

Rev. Norm Horofker  
Minister  
Summer Office hours  
By appointment only  
Cell 902-229-9239

Sandra Jamieson  
Office Administrator  
Summer Office hours  
Fridays only  
June 17 to August 23

Interim RE Director  
Marie-Claude Leroux

Margaret Galbraith  
President

Newsletter  
Etta Hamm  
Sylvia Mattinson  
Sandra Jamieson

Sunday service  
10:30 am

All are welcome

Children & Youth Education  
Child care available

### July 7

***On the Road from Freshwater Bridge*** — Long time member Heather Watts will unveil some of the secrets held by the old house that our church calls home. How much do you know about our building? Using old maps, deeds and court documents – and frequently present with a camera when old plaster was replaced, Heather has discovered surprising things over the years. Come and hear the story of the Tremain House “on the road from Freshwater Bridge” and its place in Halifax history. **Presenter: Heather Watts; Service Leader: Mary Lu MacDonald**

### July 14

***The Gender Shift*** — As our circles widen and we encounter more gender diversity, we need to shift long-standing habits. We’re so afraid of saying and doing the wrong things. What are the right things? Today we’ll explore a vision of a world in which all genders are celebrated. **Presenter: Darla Muzzerall; Service Assistant: Pam Berman**

### July 21

***The Elusive Pot of Gold at the End of the Rainbow*** — We all owe a debt of gratitude to those who led the way and continue to lead in LGBTQ+ and transgender issues. No one is free until we are all free, and Pride is a celebration of freedom. **Presenter: Rev. Norm Horofker; Service Assistant: Elinor Egar-Reynolds**







### July 28

***Photography as Meditation*** — Taking photographs can give us a different perspective and a fresh way of seeing. More than that, however, photography can offer us unique ways to engage with the world around us. Whether we seek a new start, a satisfying sense of closure, or a novel way to meditate, using a camera can help us move forward. **Presenter: Avard Woolaver; Service Assistant: Martha Wilson**

During July and August our services will be inspired by a variety of themes.

**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.**



JULY 2019						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Canada Day 	2	3	4	5	6 
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 National Ice Cream Day 	15	16	17	18	19 1:00-2:00 pm Pride float decoration at UUCH	20  Pride Parade (See schedule)
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 12 - 2 pm Pride Community Barbecue
28 	29 Noon: Deadline for the August <b>two-page</b> newsletter	30	31			
<b>Groups suspended, July &amp; August:</b> Afterchoir, Board of Directors, Humanist Group, Intro to UU, Parents & Tots, Religious Exploration program, RE Committee, Saturday Brunch, TaiChi, Young Adult Group.						

## UUCH Staff Summer Schedule

**Rev Norm Horofker** will not be in the pulpit on Sundays in July during his study month, and will be on vacation in August. He can be reached by cell phone for urgent matters.

**Sandra Jamieson**, Office Administrator, is on summer hours until August 23. She is in most Fridays, 11:30 am to 3 pm, to check email and phone messages, and to produce the Sunday order of service. Please **submit announcements by 11 am or you might miss out.**

**Religious Exploration Program for Children.** There will be no organized program over the summer months, but supervised childcare comprising indoor or outdoor play (depending on weather) will be available every Sunday. Do come and bring your children.



# Minister's Notes

## *The "Great Turning" within the UUA*

I am writing these notes as I return from the Retreat of the Unitarian Universalist Minister's Association (UUMA) and the General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) in Spokane Washington. While the UUA and the CUC (Canadian Unitarian Council) are national bodies, the UUMA serves ministers in Canada and the USA and internationally. I point this out because the issues in our faith tradition cross borders in complex ways, and that fact led to a personal awakening for me in Spokane.

The General Assembly of the UUA in Spokane met under the theme: "The Power / Possibility / Struggle / Joy of We." The Assembly workshops and worship services were a fascinating look into what a truly diverse, passionate, multicultural, Unitarian Universalism looks like. I saw it for five days. It is exciting and challenging, scary and reassuring, messy and visionary, awkward and beautiful... all at once.

Some background: In the spring of 2017, the flawed hiring process for a Regional leader, that by-passed qualified people of colour, triggered the release of pent up racial tensions among religious professionals of colour within the UUA. This event led to subsequent actions by the UUA and UUMA executive that in turn led to the resignation of the President of the UUA and the President of the UUMA and a complete restructuring of the administration of both bodies. The result is nothing short of a revolution within the faith tradition with all the disruption, uncertainty and real risk that comes with that.

Just reading the titles of some of the workshops and events at the General Assembly will give you a sense of what is happening: Combatting

Destructive Behavior and White Supremacy Culture – Collaborative Leadership for Collective Liberation – White Supremacy Today – Disrupting White Fragility – Decolonizing Unitarian Universalism – Consensus Decision-Making to Counter Oppression... Granted, there were lots of less controversial titles for workshops, but the theme of revolutionary change was in the air everywhere.

After initial shock, I am now willing to engage in discussions of White Supremacy and White Centering in Unitarian Universalism. There is no denying the fact of White Supremacy in our faith tradition. It is most obvious when we hear the oft repeated phrases... I feel so comfortable here, it is like home, these are my people... Behind that perception of what our congregations provide, is a protection of the status quo for a white centred church. But things are changing. As one person put it, I no longer welcome visitors by telling them that they have found a comfortable home... I say instead, this will be hard work, but it will be rewarding and transformative—and transformation is what church should be about.

I loved what I saw at the General Assembly of the UUA in Spokane. It presented me with a picture of a relevant, bold, dynamic religious identity for our time. I am on study leave for July and vacation in August. I will be using that time to figure out what this means for me personally and as your minister. interesting times ahead!

***With Love, Norm***

# Board Buzz

Happy summer, all!

As is our tradition, the June board meeting was a transitional one, with both retiring and new members present — a good opportunity for some old business to be wrapped up and new members to get a sense of what lays ahead. Retiring member Ginny Gerard has already moved to Tatamagouche, so was not present, but longtime members-at-large Mia Huh and Pam Berman attended. Retiring secretary Shripad Pendse took the minutes for the last time, while Jean-François Turcotte, Mike Belland, Jim Morrison and Katherine Hurtka were welcomed as the new members-at-large. We also had technology at work, as both Pam Griffin-Hody, moving from member-at-large to secretary and Troy Saulnier, keeping his vice-president's position, called in using the Zoom conferencing platform. Our 2019-2020 Board also includes Kim Turner and myself, staying on as past president and president respectively. The retiring members were thanked heartily for their contributions, especially Shripad for his secretarial work, Pam B for her many years in several board roles, and Mia for her countless hours representing the Board on the Building Committee, particularly during the kitchen and front porch renovations.

Our most important pieces of business were to approve the recommendations of the hiring committees for the Music Director and the Director of Religious Exploration. We were unanimous in our support of their conclusions, and as many of you now know, Marie-Claude Leroux accepted our offer and will now be our permanent part-time DRE. The Music Director position will hopefully be finalized very shortly.

We also have plans for a structural building assessment to be carried out this summer, and confirmed that we will hold another Congregational Retreat on August 24<sup>th</sup>—and a Volunteer Fair in September. Look for more details in the August newsletter.

## UUCH Board of Directors

June 2019 - May 2020

### Officers

President	Margaret Galbraith
Vice-President	Troy Saulnier
Past President	Kim Turner
Secretary	Pam Griffin-Hody
Treasurer	Marilyn Shinyei

### Members at Large

Mike Belland	Katherine Hutka
Jim Morrison	Jean-François Turcotte

You will hear more about our responsibilities as hosts of the CUC 2020 Conference from our co-chairs, Molly Hurd and Glenda Butt, closer to September. If you can't wait you can volunteer now! See the CUC website:

[cuc.ca/annual-general-meeting-conference/](http://cuc.ca/annual-general-meeting-conference/)

Enjoy your summer days!



**Margaret Galbraith**  
**President**  
**UUCH Board of Directors**





## The Caring Column

**John Paterson** was pleased to learn that Mount Allison University, his alma mater, has already put his donation of \$50,000 to good use in its Indigenous Mentorship Program. The program helps first-year Indigenous students transition from high school to university.

**Barbara Harsanyi** enjoyed a visit with two of her grandchildren who were in Nova Scotia participating in concerts arranged by Musique Royale. **Muriel Rosevear** will meet for the first time her great-granddaughters coming from Texas. **Etta Hamm** looks forward to having her two sons at home, together for the first time in over two years.

Rev. Norm officiated at the celebration of life of **Pam Griffin Hody's** husband, William Hody, near the Pollett River in Elgin, NB, on June 1st.

**Jim Morrison's** uncle Herbert George Peppard of Truro, a highly honoured and decorated WWII veteran, died recently at the age of 98. Our sympathies go out to Jim and the family.

**Kim Turner and James Morris' daughter Katherine** is doing well following her recent appendectomy.

**Jessica Friesen** is now 'on the upside' of her recent illness. She thanks everyone for their good wishes.

It was good to see **Marie Davis** back in church on June 23rd after a fall in mid-June.

**Philip Welch** has moved to the Glasgow Building of Shannex's Parkland At The Lake retirement home in Dartmouth where his wife Elvira is living. He would welcome phone calls.

**Danielle Saulnier** is looking forward to sabbatical leave as of July to work on her Master's degree.

And finally, **Inge English** is returning to live in her native country of Denmark, with her new friend. Bon voyage and best wishes, Inge!

Best wishes to all for a safe and happy summer!

**Sylvia Mattinson**

**UUCH  
in 2019 Pride  
Parade**

**Saturday, July 20  
1 to 3:30 pm**



Join UUs and friends to show your pride! UUCH members will once again show we are on the Side of Love, show how we celebrate Pride, and have a lot of fun doing it! So wear your bright yellow SSL T-shirt or a yellow shirt or anything.

*This year we will have a Pride Barbecue open to the public on the following weekend.*

**The Schedule:**

Friday, July 19, 1–2 pm

Meet at the church for float decorating.

Saturday, July 20, 10 am–1 pm

Assemble at HMC Dockyard, 16 Valour Way. More decorating. (*Enter by Barrington Street under the MacDonald Bridge.*)

**The Parade**

1 pm – 3:30 pm

From Valour Way via Barrington & Spring Garden to Garrison Grounds.

**The Barbecue**

Saturday, July 27, 12–2 pm

Pride Community Barbecue at 5500 Inglis. Come celebrate Pride at our free LGBTQ barbecue.



*Pride activities are fun for everyone.  
Bring friends and family along to participate!*

*Andy Blair*





## Halifax UUs attend Mawita'jik

Some of our members had a most enjoyable time at Mawita'jik competitive Mi'kmaq PowWow (or mawita'jik) recently held at the Dartmouth Sportsplex.

Native drumming and singing sounded welcoming as Amy Moonshadow and I made our way through the hallways leading to the arena where all performances were staged.

The dancing and other competitions took place on the plywood-covered floor (normally the ice surface) where the Indigenous performers and their counterparts in the audience were bedecked in their colourful, distinctive outfits and regalia. "This is the real Canada," was a comment my Dutch friend had made when we were attending last year's PowWow.

This time, I could not stay to see the competitions, but I was thrilled to find the area where the Indigenous vendors had set up their wares: exciting jewelry, beautiful robes and blankets and etchings that I especially admired.

We were moved by the strong sense of vibrant community of the Mi'kmaq world, that we as non-indigenous Canadians, don't nearly know enough about.

**Wietske Gradstein**

## Good news!

Announcing our new permanent part-time Director of Religious Exploration, Marie-Claude Leroux!



You will all be pleased to learn that the Board has hired our charming and resourceful Interim DRE on a permanent basis. She will be starting in her new capacity in mid-August.

Congratulations, Marie-Claude!

**Margaret Galbraith**

## Pumpkin plants available

We have two giant pumpkin plants from the Howard Dill farm that have not yet found a home.

If you would like to try your hand or test your green thumb by joining our pumpkin experiment, please contact me.

I will deliver!

**Norm**

# Religious Exploration

Summer is here at last and the Religious Exploration program will resume in September. I take this opportunity to extend my sincerest gratitude to all who have helped organize, support and create memorable experiences for the children and youth attending the program this past year.

The RE committee is tireless in its support for the program. Janet Horofker, Pam Berman, Danielle Saulnier, Troy Saulnier and Katherine Hutka meet monthly to discuss and offer support in creating a thriving program. They've also been actively engaged in the program with the children. Both Janet & Pam have taught the older children with lively, rich spiritual discussions exploring ethical questions, UU identity, and our role in creating solutions for climate change. Danielle has shared her passion for teaching and for children by running and teaching many of the sessions, either as a volunteer teacher, childcare or taking the helm when a DRE was not available. Troy & Katherine have helped with the program, stepping in as well when childcare wasn't available, or another adult was particularly helpful. Norm has continued to be supportive and encouraging of any endeavor our imaginations can come up, and has personally spent time with the children to connect with them about ritual and service.

I am grateful to Lia Woolaver & Jane Wilson who nearly every Sunday helped the teachers by offering a second set of hands and assisting in the childcare. My gratitude extends to Martha Wilson & Avard Woolaver for driving in from Windsor throughout the year to ensure that childcare was available to us.

A particularly enriching component of the program this year was Spirit Art. Through this endeavor, the children were given opportunities to connect with various congregants in creative ways. These wonderful experiences would not have been possible without those congregants sharing their interests with the group. The children were taught Dances of Universal Peace with Kathy Spencer; celebrated Day of the Dead with Andy Blair and Claudia de Fuentes; made candles with Allan and Leslie Shaw; decorated cookies for the Saturday community brunch with Allan, Leslie, Molly Hurd and Faith Piccolo; and designed squares for a collaborative quilt with Marilyn Shinyei. Please consider

joining us next year in sharing your creative interests. This is a wonderful opportunity to form important connections between the children and the adults in the congregation. If you have an idea percolating, I can help find a way to make it possible with the children.



We are also grateful for Celeste from the Butterfly Club of the Mersey Tobetic Research Institute for donating her time, expertise, and many plants for our butterfly garden and monarch way station.



I would also like to thank Tanya Bilsbury. As the DRE for the past couple of years, she chose and implemented the rich curricula the children followed and instituted the Spirit Art program that has been rewarding for everyone. It has been my pleasure to follow in her footsteps. I look forward to the fall to resume the program.

**Marie-Claude Leroux**  
**Interim Director**  
**Religious Exploration Program**



# PICNIC PICS



Photos by Kim Turner







Our annual group photo, taken by Avard Woolaver, June 16th.  
What a happy looking bunch!

## August Newsletter

There will be no multi-page newsletter for August. Instead, we will publish the usual page describing the Sunday services, the reverse side of which will feature important announcements from the Board, and any concise, pressing item that space may allow. **Submission deadline: Monday, July 29th.**

*Your newsletter collective:*

*Etta Hamm, Sylvia Mattinson and Sandra Jamieson*



August 24th  
Congregational Retreat  
Stay tuned for details

Stop & Smell  
the Roses

