



This Month's Sunday Services

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

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

Rev. Norm Horofker
Minister
Cell 902-229-9239

Jessica Friesen
Music Director

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

Troy Saulnier
President

Etta Hamm
Newsletter Editor

Sunday services
10:30 am
Presented online

All are welcome

Children & Youth
Education

Note: Please join us through Zoom or YouTube between 10:20 am and 10:30 on Sunday. All services start at 10:30. To join online, use this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/666004431?pwd=RjQvVEtjUjM1MEdnMDgxU0VSRzVLQT09> Meeting ID: 666 004 431 Password: 010670. You can also watch the service live, or later on YouTube on our UUCH channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3Lw1hW1n7z3mNapa6yY7Jw>

To attend services in person, please see page 2 about pre-registering.

July 4

UU Hysterical Society with Liz James

"My Muzungu Eyes Are Improving" — Liz James speaks on lions, cross cultural misunderstanding, bravery, and Unitarianism overseas—telling the story of Rev. Fulgence Ndadigimana's imprisonment for his work as a UU Minister, how UUs around the world came together to get him released, and the not-for-profit he founded afterwards.

Service Leader: Jessica Friesen

July 11

Grand River Unitarian Congregation with Rev. Jessica Rodello

"Seven Ways of Seeing" — Anthropologist Edith Turner, before seeing a ghost, said: "It's true that I once had an experience of religion, after which I didn't see the point of disbelieving other people's experiences. It gave me something else to be inquisitive about." Come hear a Unitarian ghost story where science and "reality" collide.

Service Leader: Jessica Friesen

July 18

"A Musical Pride Sunday" — Our annual pride service is a time of acceptance and celebration with the LGBTQ2S+ community. This year we will celebrate with music, stories of inspiring figures, and much more with the help of Mike Belland. Tune in for this very special service! **Service Leader: Jessica Friesen; Service Assistant: Mike Belland**

July 25








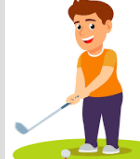



Neighbourhood Unitarian Universalist Congregation with Rev. Wayne Walder

"Summer Dreams" — Toronto's Rev. Wayne Walder speaks on the dream before beginning again. **Service Leader: Jessica Friesen; Service Assistant: Margaret Galbraith**



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 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
July & August: Our Minister, RE Director and Music Director are on summer break and all regular meetings, gatherings and events are suspended. Enjoy your summer!				1 Canada Day  7 pm UUCH online gathering	2	3 
4 10:30 service online & on site		6	7 	8 7 pm UUCH online gathering	9	10  Safe travels!
11 10:30 service online & on site 5 pm CUC: Connect & Deepen		13	14 7 pm Climate Crisis Team meeting	15 7 pm UUCH online gathering	16 	17 1 pm CUC: BIPOC Space
18 10:30 service online & onsite		20	21 Evening: Eid ul-Adha, (Muslim observance) begins	22 7 pm UUCH online gathering	23 Evening: Eid ul-Adha ends	24 
25 10:30 service online & on site		 Newsletter Deadline	28 	29 7–8 pm UUCH online gathering	30 	31 1 pm CUC: Leaders Round- table on 8th Principle

A NOTE ABOUT SUNDAY SERVICES

As of June 30th we are allowed to have up to 50% of our capacity for services. Attendance is therefore still limited to 15 people in the sanctuary. We must also continue social distancing and wearing face masks – even if you have had both vaccinations. We want to keep everyone safe!

To attend in person, please pre-register in advance by contacting Margaret Galbraith at margalbraith@eastlink.ca or 902-835-3767. You will have to answer the COVID protocol health questions when you arrive and give your name to Colin Kerr, who is keeping track of the number of participants.



Minister's Notes

For July...

I am writing these notes a couple of days after the final sermon for the church year. It has been an extraordinary year shaped by the COVID-19 pandemic and I will admit to being a little tired, and more than ready for a break.

I have now completed 9 years as the minister to this beloved congregation and I continue to learn more about ministry almost every day. We are blessed to have Marie-Claude as our Director of Religious Exploration and Jessica Friesen as our Music Director. I am thankful for such eager and competent colleagues. And I thank you, the members of the congregation, for the opportunity to serve with them.

I will be around Halifax for most of the summer except for trips to visit with my daughters and grandchildren and possibly a trip to my home town of Thunder Bay in Ontario. During July and August Jessica Friesen will be organizing the summer services with assistance from John Piccolo and Paul Galbraith. As posted elsewhere in this newsletter, you will see that Jessica has a great series of services planned. I hope to see you at some of them.

Over the summer, along with visiting my new grandchildren, spending time on my boat and catching up on maintenance items around the house, I will be thinking ahead to the new church year beginning in September.

Although in need of a break, I am excited to think about the new church year. I believe that we are poised for some great times together, and it will be such a treat to really be together in person. I hope that you feel the same way and that you will be eager to engage with the many initiatives in the congregation as part of your spiritual journey.

With Love,
Norm Horofker

Board Buzz

It is hard to believe that 2021 is half over. It simultaneously feels like it has gone by so fast and that we have been in it forever. I am optimistic, with the good vaccination rate and low case numbers, that we will soon return to something resembling normal.

Having just held our AGM, it is a good time to reflect on our accomplishments and on the way forward. We have dealt with severe Indigenous issues that sadden us deeply—with now over 1,000 children of residential schools found in mass graves. This is a very different kind of Canada Day. Many people will be spending time reflecting on the past and our relationship with First Nations. Our family is decorating orange shirts to wear, placing teddy bears along the Truro boys' 6-day walking route, and talking about what happened for awareness and understanding.

We had a good Dismantling Racism workshop series and a lot of discussion around an 8th principle. This last point has been contentious due to the CUC AGM's out-of-process vote which puts our democratic principle at risk. The CUC and congregations are working on getting the 8th principle resolved while fully respecting this new priority and all of our principles.

We continue to do so much good work in religious exploration, Saturday brunch, refugee program, climate crisis, soulful sundown, and hybrid services. I hope everyone is proud of the work we do and feels motivated to continue, or to be even more involved.

At the AGM we gave the Building Committee the authority to move forward and bring the final design and project details to the board for the deck. In other good news, we just received a \$13,000 accessibility grant for the project.

Many thanks to Jean-François Turcotte, Jim Morrison and Mike Belland whose two-year terms on the board have ended. Our new board for 2021 is shown above.

With summer now in full swing, and as our province opens up restrictions, I expect that everyone will take advantage of the freedom of getting out a bit more, seeing friends and family. It has been an exceptionally hard past 15 months and we all need to recharge and refill our well. I look forward to getting together again. Have a wonderful summer!

Troy Saulnier
President
UUCH Board of Directors

UUCH Board of Directors 2021 - 2022

Elected at June 27 AGM

President	Troy Saulnier
Vice-president	Pam Griffin-Hody
Past President	Margaret Galbraith
Secretary	Molly Hurd
Treasurers (co)	Marilyn Shinyei Darla Muzzerall
Members at large	Katelyn Everson Avard Woolaver



From the Climate Crisis Team

Nova Scotia's Sustainable Development Goals Act

As has been mentioned, the Nova Scotia Government is holding a public participation process for the province's Sustainable Development Goals Act. We have until **July 26th** to let them know how we want them to carry out the goals described in the Act (passed in October 2019).

The website cleanfuture.ca explains the whole process, with optional ways to submit your ideas. There are two discussion papers that we recommend you read before commenting: the Climate Change Plan for Clean Growth, and the Sustainable Development Goals Act.

The UUCH Climate Crisis Team has looked at aspects of the process that deal with clean energy and the reduction of carbon emissions, and we think that the goals are not strong enough in this area. We feel that reducing carbon emissions is the most urgent priority of any government, world wide. We are preparing a response to let Nova Scotia Environment and Climate Change know that as members of the Unitarian Universalist faith, with our own principles and concerns in particular for the interdependent web, that we want to see *more* action to reduce carbon emissions, *sooner*.

However, clean energy is just one aspect of the Act. There are six goals guided by four principles. The SDGA discussion paper lays it all out well, with questions for you to consider about your own community, your vision for the province, and how to ensure that no one is left behind.

I encourage you to consider our UU principles: the inherent worth and dignity of all, justice, equity and compassion, and the interdependent web of which we are a part – and let our Nova Scotia government know how we would like to see them carry out these goals that will define our future in this province.

Margaret Galbraith
for the Climate Crisis Team



Share Your Thoughts. We want to hear your ideas for the new goals under the Nova Scotia Sustainable Development Goals Act and the Climate Change Plan for Clean Growth. Ways to share your input: **Register for a virtual workshop, July 6, 8, 13. Engage in an online discussion. Upload your ideas in document form. Send your thoughts by email, mail, or phone. Go to cleanfuture.ca**

The Caring Column



Kathy Spencer, main contact and steadfast supporter of **Marie Davis** and Marie's daughter Glenda, reports that Marie has been moved to a section of Northwood

where she gets more care. Her new address is shown here in a Directory Update. Marie loves visitors and it is now possible to arrange a visit by phoning Northwood at 902-454-4408. Kathy asks that *she also* be informed in advance (902-466-7246 or 223-8641) to avoid double bookings. (Northwood doesn't contact her re the bookings.) Kathy is hoping to take Marie to the Public Gardens and other places over the summer. Marie's daughter Glenda and granddaughter Nora hope to visit Marie here in late July.

We are happy to report that **Mike Belland** is slowly recovering. He attended the AGM for a short time on June 27th and has planted more lovely flowers at UUCH. He feels he is "on the mend". His infections have lessened and his doctors are encouraged by his progress.

Kathy Anthony has been sick at home for the month of June—at the same time as her kitchen was being remodeled. She has appreciated Marilyn Shinyei's help through this time. Her low energy and electrolyte levels have persisted although she is gradually improving and can now drive. And she loves her new kitchen!

We offer our sympathy to **Molly Hurd** on the death of her mother, Ann Puxley Hurd, in Ottawa on June 18th. Molly was glad she could be there with her along with other family members at that sad time.

Happy news from **Jean-François and Caitlin**: the arrival of their daughter **Evangeline** on June 13th! Best wishes to all three of you!

Sylvia Mattinson

From the Refugee Committee



The Refugee Committee shares this photo taken at a welcoming tea party for our newest arrivals, three sisters and their mother. L-R: Hind Shakeeb, Rasha Al Hayaziey*, Sawsan Khudair, Zainab Shakeeb and Rand Shakeeb. Rasha is an Iraqi Nova Scotian who was anxious to meet the newcomers. The family is safely in the caring hands of the Open Harbour Refugee Association, a Halifax-based settlement group.

Chuch Directory Update

New address

DAVIS, Marie

2615 Northwood Terrace

Room 121 Center

Halifax, NS B3K 3S5

DEADLINE

**The deadline to submit contributions
for the short August newsletter
is Tuesday, July 27th.**

Please send essential-only
information to Etta
at braeside@eastlink.ca

Religious Exploration for Children & Youth

Summer is upon us! We had our last session for the Religious Exploration program of the church year in June. As you know, we spent the past ten months focusing on connecting with nature and discovering ways in which we are indeed interconnected to the web of all existence—with both outings surrounded by nature and virtually learning about it.

We are fortunate here in Halifax that nature is available to us nearby in its many forms without straying far from home. As long as we were able to gather in person we explored a new natural setting for a few hours on Sunday afternoons. But to cap off the year, we ventured much farther and had an overnight camping experience at Kejimikujik National Park – what a wonderful time we had!



All of our regular families attended and we were 32 people altogether. We set up camp on Saturday and rewarded our hard work by hiking to and swimming at the beach. Then we spent hours around campfires – broken up into groups that took into account restrictions and age ranges. The older kids – our junior youth – connected in a way they never have before, laughing amongst themselves around their fire for hours, late into the night. We roasted many a marshmallow, as well as campfire bread. We played games, were serenaded, and enjoyed the antics and shadow puppet plays of the younger children.

We capped off our weekend together with our last hike for the year. It was another beautiful day for an adventure, the highlight of which was the outcropping over the falls. One of the boys even caught a fish bare-handed from one of the tide pools and released it into the water. It was a great way to celebrate the end of the year together!

COVID restrictions have been challenging in various ways for us all over the past 18 months, but this challenge brought the RE program a gift in allowing for time out in nature, and just as importantly, more time spent together, families getting to know each other and building bonds.

The Religious Exploration program will resume in September, and I look forward to what the new season will bring.

Marie-Claude Leroux

Director

Religious Exploration for Children & Youth

June 1, 2021

**From Vyda Ng
Executive Director
Canadian Unitarian Council**



To CUC Leaders, Canadian Religious Educators, newsletter groups

Mourning 215 Children

Canadian Unitarian Universalists share the grief and sorrow over the recent discovery of the remains of 215 children on the site of the former Kamloops Indian Residential School. We are profoundly shaken, while recognizing that sadly it does not come as a shock to many Indigenous families across the country.

The discovery further shows the immense harm done by the residential school system and the effects that continue to be felt today. This is genocide, and there are remains of children and youth at almost every former residential school site. It is a start, but not enough, for the government to offer reparations for the 215 children; we urge that it must be a priority to recover the remains of all the other lost children.

The CUC committed in 2014 to upholding the recommendations of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and we reaffirm our support for implementing this, as well as the calls to action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, as the best means of addressing the injustices Indigenous people in Canada face.

We encourage Canadians to write to their Member of Parliament to press for action that will help repair some of the harm done, to consider donating to the Indian Residential School Survivors Society, and to continue the work to educate ourselves about the history and impact of the residential school system.

Together we must ensure that every child matters and no children are forgotten.

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Photos from the internet added by your editor

Looking forward to the Halifax Pride Festival, August 12-22, 2021,
with a nostalgic look back to UUCH's participation
in our last (and great) Pride parade, July 20, 2019



For Pride 2021 events, both virtual and real, keep an eye on halifaxpride.com/info-2021

