



Universalist Unitarian  
Church of Halifax  
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Rev. Norm Horofker  
Minister  
Office hours  
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Cell 902-229-9239

Sandra Jamieson  
Office Administrator  
Office hours  
Mon, Wed, Fri, 10-3  
Lunch-12 to 1pm

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

**May 5**

**Less is More: A Minimalist's Guide to the Galaxy**

"Less is more" as a principle can be applied to words, actions, possessions and acts of creation. Rev. Canon Dr. Jody Clarke will speak to us of the focus of imagination and spirit demanded of a "less is more" lifestyle. Jody Clarke is an associate professor of Pastoral Theology at the Atlantic School of Theology, with wide interests and a liberal outlook. Presenter: Rev. Canon Dr. Jody Clarke; Service Leader: Margaret Galbraith

**May 12**

**Mother's Day – A Mother's Hope**

The birth of a child is almost always a time of hope. Today we will celebrate the hope that mothers around the world share for their children. This is the first service by Rev. Norm following his month long sabbatical.

Presenter: Rev. Norm Horofker; Service Assistant: Elinor Egar-Reynolds

**May 19**

**Our Life as the Creative Act – Creating Individually**

The first in a two-sermon series. What is the role of individual creativity in living a good life? During the sermon, Amy Moonshadow will be completing a "Live Art Project."

Presenter: Rev. Norm Horofker; Service Assistant: Alan Snow

**May 26**

**Our Life as the Creative Act – Creating in Community**

The second in a two-sermon series. What is the role of community in creating a good life?

Presenter: Rev. Norm Horofker; Service Assistant: Pam Griffin-Hody

**Theme for June: Blessing**

**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.**



## May 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>Canadian Jewish Heritage Month</b> (Federally enacted March 2018)	Ramadan May 5 to June 4	<b>1</b> 4:45-6:15 pm Afterchoir	<b>2</b> 9:30-11:30 am Parents & Tots Noon Tai Chi	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 10 am – noon Neighbourhood Brunch 
<b>5</b> Hike for Hospice (see notice)	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 4:45-6:15 pm Afterchoir	<b>9</b> 9:30-11:30 am Parents & Tots Noon Tai Chi	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 10 am - noon Neighbourhood Brunch  2:00-5:30 pm CUC AGM, Online Access
<b>12</b> 	<b>13</b> 9 pm Young Adult Online Check-in	<b>14</b> 1:00 pm TRTG Meeting All welcome	<b>15</b> 4:45-6:15 pm Afterchoir	<b>16</b> 9:30-11:30 am Parents & Tots Noon Tai Chi 6:30 Board Meeting	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 10 am - noon Neighbourhood Brunch
<b>19</b> 12 Noon Humanist Group	<b>20</b> 	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 4:45-6:15 pm Afterchoir	<b>23</b> 9:30-11:30 am Parents & Tots Noon Tai Chi	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 10 am – noon Neighbourhood Brunch
<b>26</b> 12 noon Annual General Meeting	<b>27</b> 10 am Newsletter Deadline	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 4:45-6:15 pm Afterchoir	<b>30</b> 9:30-11:30 am Parents & Tots Noon Tai Chi	<b>31</b>	

## NOTICE

**The Annual General Meeting of the UUCH  
will take place at 12 noon, Sunday, May 26, 2019**

The meeting will conduct the following business:

- Business arising from the minutes of the October 2018 Semi-annual General Meeting.
- Receive and approve reports from the Minister and various officers & committees.
- Presentation of a revised budget; and a motion for a change to the church by-laws.
- Nominations for the Board of Directors for the 2019-2020 church year.
- Other business as may be raised before or at the meeting.

Members (only) vote on motions, but non-members are invited and most welcome.

***Shripad Pendse***  
***Secretary, UUCH Board of Directors***

# Board Buzz

It is now the end of our month without Norm. From a Board perspective things have gone as well as can be expected, with no emergencies to manage. Several of us now realize that Norm puts a great deal of time into preparing our Sunday services, and there have been some serious scrambles, mostly but not always behind the scenes to keep the technical side of things together. Our thanks to the service leaders and the technical support for managing so well. The presenters each week – Rev. Linda Thomson, Marilyn Shinyei, Susan Stephen and the Young Adult Group – also gifted us with four engaging and very different services.

It was a special pleasure to have Linda with us for a weekend. The Board enjoyed sharing dinner and conversation with her on the Friday evening. On the Saturday she joined the Neighbourhood Brunch group, then led a large number of us in a facilitated discussion in the afternoon. (There will be follow-up from this at the AGM). Her stimulating sermon on Sunday about the importance of Covenant to keep UUs together was something we can build on.

We did have a notable gap with contributions to our food box. Norm and Janet have been very generous in their support of this project, and their absence was obvious. This wasn't something we had consciously planned for, and it showed. Hopefully our neighbours managed in the meantime, and will join us in welcoming Norm back!

His sabbatical was officially over April 30th, but he went straight to Calgary for ministers' meetings. He will return to his UUCH duties on Monday, May 6th.

In the meantime we are looking to the future:

- the CUC AGM, May 11th. Both our delegates attended the Board meeting: Troy, our Vice President, and Katherine Hutka as guest. She is a returning UUCH member and a nominee for the 2019-2020 Board. We have charged them to support the motions coming to that meeting on behalf of UUCH. See the article elsewhere in this newsletter for more on the AGM.

## 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

- our own AGM, May 26th. A revised budget will be presented, and there will be a motion for a change to our by-laws, such that the retiring Past President will move into the position of the Nominating Committee chair each year.
- a Volunteer Fair is being planned for the fall.
- work will start in May to repair the deck, extending its life while we consider appropriate full replacement plans.
- Molly Hurd is stepping down from her role as leader of the very successful Parents and Tots Thursday morning program, so we are looking at options to keep it in operation.
- hiring for both a new Music Director and a new Director of Religious Exploration are being planned for, with advertisements going out in the next few weeks.
- Molly Hurd and Glenda Butt also were guests at the meeting, to discuss plans for the CUC 2020 AGM. You will hear more about an upcoming site visit to King's College for our congregation, to get us all into the hosting spirit for the big event, only a year away. Volunteer recruiting will start soon.

So many things to look forward to! Norm is coming back just in time.

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

## ***REPORTS DUE!***

**Committee reports for the AGM are officially due  
in my Inbox by 10 am, Wednesday, May 15th.**



**Early submissions would be much appreciated.**

Your cooperation will enable me to:

1. Compile reports in the right order.
2. Include your report on the agenda.
3. Compile complete sets of agenda and reports, and send them out via UUinfo on Friday, May 17th.

Don't miss the opportunity of having your report included.

A number of stapled, hard copy sets will be available in the days leading up to the meeting.

*Important:* Please try to minimize the over-use and cost of paper. If you are taking a set from the office prior to the meeting, try to resist the temptation of taking a second set at the meeting.

Thank you for your cooperation.

***Sandra Jamieson***  
***[uuchurch@eastlink.ca](mailto:uuchurch@eastlink.ca)***

## The Caring Column

**John Paterson** reports that the party at Northwood Terrace in honour of his 80th birthday was a great success—largely due to the great performance of the After-choir which was very much enjoyed by all!



**Jessica Friesen** was expected to be our pianist on Easter Sunday but instead was taken to the hospital emergency with a sudden illness. We missed her musicality and cheerful presence. We send her best wishes for a speedy recovery.

**Amy Moonshadow** happily reports that her mother has only one more cancer treatment and is doing very well.

**Ella Wilson** continues to make gradual progress while in hospital. She often asks about UUCH people and activities.

It was good to see **Tanya Bilsbury** at the last two Sunday services. She is feeling somewhat better, is working again and participating in activities as she is able.

*Sylvia Mattinson*

## Share the Plate



I am happy to announce that Etta Hamm has volunteered to be your new Share the Plate co-ordinator.

If you have a suggestion for a charity you would like to see us support, please let Etta know—and remember, plate contributions are receipted for income tax purposes when you use a church envelope and identify yourself by name.

The organizations to which we contribute must be registered Canadian charities and in keeping with our Seven Principles. Another aim is to coincide a charity with our monthly theme whenever possible. Thank you always for your generosity.

**Ginny Girard**  
**Board Member at Large**

## From the Outer Limits

**A note from Nancy Brister in Riverport** From my bedroom window, while working at genealogy at my computer, I watched the lobster boats bring in their catches all winter, and now I watch the fishing boats tending their nets in the cove. I love it. It's still too chilly to sit on the front stoop with my morning coffee but it's coming. I'm back with my tin whistle group and my life writing group. I do enjoy life on the shore.



I hope all is well with all of you. I do miss everyone and the community activities I so much enjoyed. I cannot replace that here. I'll be popping in one of these Sundays to see you all.

## A Surprise from Ginny Girard in Tatamagouche

Two and a-half years ago Don and I bought a cottage in Tatamagouche. Little did we know then just how much that would change the direction of our path in life.



In Tatamagouche we have found a strong community of like-minded people. The little village has drawn people from all over the world who now call this place home. The area has a vibrant fibre art scene and I am able to pursue my passion for weaving and have been teaching workshops through a local studio.

This year I retire from the Federal Government after 30 years and Don retired several years ago. Our plan was to put our Dartmouth condo up for sale and over the next few months gradually move full-time to Tatamagouche, but this plan was rapidly brought forward when our condo sold in two days! So we are now already calling 'Tata' our home.

We have enjoyed our time with UUCH, and serving on the Board has been an honour. We hope to still keep in contact, and to attend services whenever possible.



## CUC Annual General Meeting Saturday May 11

As explained in the February newsletter we can send two voting delegates to the CUC AGM to participate either in person or online. Troy Saulnier and Katherine Hutka have volunteered to represent us and will be participating online.

A significant part of the AGM is voting on motions developed by either the CUC Board of Trustees or members of congregations across the country. There are 6 motions this year, mostly to do with administrative issues, but Motion 3 is different. **The original wording was, in part:**

*Motion 3: Study Resolution on an 8th Principle  
Be it resolved that a study group be struck to: ...*

*2. Draft a proposed 8th Principle, relevant for the Canadian cultural and historical context, calling for the CUC and its congregations to accountably dismantle racism in our institutions and within ourselves. [This may be an adaptation of the UUA's proposed 8th principle.]*

*3. Produce a report and/or resolution to be considered at the 2020 CUC AGM that serves as the basis for a subsequent adoption of an 8th principle.*

As explained in the former article, the proposers of the motions were open for comments from congregations until the end of February, so after our meeting on February 24th I reported back on behalf of UUCH, that, in part ...

*"... we feel very strongly – the unanimous opinion of those congregation members who attended our meeting (about 25% of our membership) – that creating another principle is not the appropriate action to take to address this issue.*

*... there have been previous CUC resolutions concerning anti-racism work and racial equity. We would support a study group to look into the effectiveness, or not, of these previous motions, and then propose solutions which may (or may not) include a draft of an 8th principle."*

**This motion came back to us in early April, totally rewritten, as follows:**

*Motion 3: Dismantling Racism Study Group  
Be it resolved that a study group be struck to:*

*1. Through research, conversations with experts, and dialogue with Canadian Unitarians and Universalists, identify and assess efforts made in our congregations and communities to dismantle racism and other oppressions; and*

*2. Explore possible action plans that will engage Canadian Unitarians and Universalists in serious conversation and action about racism. This may include ... recommending further trainings and actions for congregations and individuals to engage in; and,*

*3. Consider how and where a commitment to racial justice might be better woven into our founding documents: our principles and sources, our vision statement, and our aspirations.*

*4. Produce a report that names where racial justice is present in our Canadian Unitarian and Universalist institutions and gathering places, along with any accompanying resolutions arising from this work, to be considered at the CUC's 2020 Annual General Meeting.*

I will send out a uuinfo message with just the full updated motion. On the CUC site it is buried in the full meeting package for the AGM (pages 26-27 and 37-38 if you want to look). I will also include information on how any of you can link into the proceedings of the meeting. Voting is restricted to delegates but participation is open to all.

Because the changes are very much in line with your expressed concerns, the Board did not feel that we needed another congregational meeting to decide how to direct our delegates to vote. We have asked them to support the motion as updated. If this decision concerns any of you, please get in touch with me at:

[margalbraith@eastlink.ca](mailto:margalbraith@eastlink.ca)  
or 902-835-3767

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

# Religious Exploration

This past month, the Religious Exploration program has begun a new curriculum for both children and youth: "Climate Change: Creating Solutions for Our Future".

Climate change can be a daunting subject, particularly when teaching it to children, some as young as five. The focus of these sessions is to educate and empower the children, not to frighten them. With age appropriate activities, the children are being introduced to basic environmental concepts and processes. our human relationship to the earth, and the critical role of balance in protecting the interdependent web of life.

We have begun by learning about the carbon cycle, the mutually beneficial cycle between all living beings and our planet's atmosphere. The children have created a terrarium, or "world in a bottle" to take home as a concrete example of balance in an ecosystem.




And we made butterflies too

We have learned about the difference between climate and weather, as well as the history of climate change demonstrating how humans have been impacting this balance.

We will be investigating our carbon footprints at home and within our community. These activities are aimed at showing the children that our individual and collective actions have an impact. We will be providing meaningful ways in which we can all positively impact and promote the health of the interdependent web.

May 2019

 **Universalist Unitarian**  
Church of Halifax

## Religious Exploration For Children & Youth

Join us on Sundays from 10:30 for our one hour age- appropriate programs to explore questions that matter. Learn more about our current curriculum and schedule below.

### Schedule

- May 5 Children & Youth: Spirit Art Celebrating Children's Day
- May 12 Children & Youth: Investigating our Carbon Carbon Footprint
- May 19 Children & Youth: Shed the Light on Energy Conservation
- May 26 Children: Butterfly Pollination | Youth: Service Participation

### Children & Youth

Children & Youth will be exploring an adapted version of "Climate Change: Creating Solutions for Our Future" curriculum . Sometimes together, and other times in their respective age groups, they will be learning about climate change in age appropriate & empowering ways. With hands on activities & experiments, participants will be guided to explore the interdependence of all life on earth, concepts of climate & the carbon cycle, and actions we can all take to reduce our impact & show our appreciation of Earth.

### Spirit Art

On May 5, we will be celebrating the Japanese holiday of Children's day by making koinobori (carp streamers) and tasting mochi.

Climate change is an issue that our children will be grappling with for the remainder of our lives. By reinforcing the seventh Unitarian Universalist principle "respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part", we are fostering an ethic of responsibility to take action to nurture and protect the web of life. Children need to know they can make a difference, and we hope to continue to empower them to do so.

We hope you can help us in continuing to encourage our children to be conscious stewards. Talk to them about the changes you've seen over the years in our climate: migration, weather, plants. Listen to their suggestions for energy conservation. Discuss feasible choices you can make at home, at school and at work to help reduce carbon emissions. Reinforce that each action has an impact, no matter how small it may seem.

**Marie-Claude Leroux**  
**Interim Director**  
**Religious Exploration for Children**

# GIANT PUMPKIN COMPETITION

For years, Norm has been dreaming of paddling his way across Lake Pesaquid in a giant pumpkin boat during the Windsor Pumpkin Regatta. But first, he needs a pumpkin.

## A giant pumpkin.



This season, the UUCH will try to grow a giant pumpkin in our raised garden bed to see if we're up to the task. Would anyone like to join us in this challenge?

If you'd like to try growing a giant pumpkin in your garden patch, we can pick up an order of plants. They are \$5 each. Come October, we'll have a competition to see who has grown the largest pumpkin.

The largest pumpkin grower will earn pride of the greenest thumb and a **special surprise prize from Norm himself.**

If we can grow a giant pumpkin, then maybe someday Norm can row one.

To sign up for the competition  
and order your plant, please email  
Marie-Claude at [marieclx@hotmail.com](mailto:marieclx@hotmail.com)



## King Seaman Church Society

The land enclosed by the River Hebert estuary was a bustling economic engine in the mid to late 1800s. The dyke lands created by the Acadians exported tonnes of hay to



Boston and New York to power the horses that moved the goods and people in these urban centres. The forests provided lumber for export; coal was mined in River Hebert and Joggins. But the prime commodity was the grindstones cut from the fine grain sandstones found in Lower Cove just west of Minudie. All these enterprises were owned and directed by Amos "King" Seaman from his large house in Minudie.

Seaman heard Hosea Ballou preach in Boston and was converted to Universalism. He built a catholic church, a protestant church, and a school in Minudie. All three buildings are still standing. The pulpit of the protestant church was open to ministers of any denomination and the Universalist minister from Halifax was a frequent visitor. His son spent a year as the Minudie school teacher. I believe that this church can be considered as the oldest Universalist church in Canada.

The King Seaman Church Society was formed to own and preserve this building. Over the past decade the society has placed the building on a new foundation, repaired the windows, expelled a colony of racoons, repaired the siding on the tower, replaced the interior walls with drywall, replaced the roof and painted the exterior. But an old building is always in need of TLC. The tower is leaning because a beam is rotting and needs to be replaced. The exterior also needs repainting.

The building is a provincial heritage building so we have applied for a provincial heritage grant but this will cover only 50% of the expenses. If you wish to contribute to the preservation of this piece of UU and Nova Scotia history, please contact either me or J.W. (Bill) Seaman. 79 Allison Dr., Moncton, NB, E1E 2T7.

*Allyn Clarke*

## Hike for Hospice!

**1 pm, Sunday, May 5**

*Join our team,*  
the Halifax Universalist Unitarians,  
*Or donate.*

For either go to:  
[chpca.convio.net/site/TR/Hike/HospiceSocietyofGreaterHalifax?team\\_id=5994&pg=team&fr\\_id=2028](http://chpca.convio.net/site/TR/Hike/HospiceSocietyofGreaterHalifax?team_id=5994&pg=team&fr_id=2028)

Or contact me at  
[margalbraith@eastlink.ca](mailto:margalbraith@eastlink.ca)

See you Sunday!

Margaret

## Church Directory Update

GIRARD, Don & Ginny  
1120 Unit 5, Sandpoint Road  
Tatamagouche NS B0K 1V0  
[girardginny@gmail.com](mailto:girardginny@gmail.com)  
902-999-3103

## 2019 Church Directories Still Available

The 2019 UUCH directory has been out since late January and available to members and friends whose names are 'in the book'.

If you still don't have your copy, be sure to ask for it next time you are in church.

If you are unable to come to church, we can mail your copy to you.

Sandra Jamieson  
[uuchurch@eastlink.ca](mailto:uuchurch@eastlink.ca)  
902-429-5500

## Truth and Reconciliation Task Group resumes activities May 14



Over the past winter months, educational films and interactive sessions were presented at the church by Elder Debbie Eisan of the Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre here in K'jipuktuk (Halifax).

Some of our founding members have moved on and away, but we have a responsibility to continue with our learnings. The time is now to expand our ongoing relationship with our First Nation neighbours.

The TRTG committee welcomes all and new members. Our next committee meeting will be on **Tuesday May 14, 1 pm** at 5500 Inglis. Please join us.

For more information contact:

Bonnie Coulombe — [blcoulombe@icloud.com](mailto:blcoulombe@icloud.com)  
902-423-7754

Norm Horofker — [nhorofker@aol.com](mailto:nhorofker@aol.com)  
902-229-9239.

***Amy Moonshadow***  
***for the TRTG Committee***

### **Newsletter Deadline**

The deadline for submissions for the June newsletter is 12 noon,  
**Monday, May 27th.**

Please send submissions to both:

Etta Hamm      [braeside@eastlink.ca](mailto:braeside@eastlink.ca)  
Sandra Jamieson   [uuchurch@eastlink.ca](mailto:uuchurch@eastlink.ca)

## May Day – Thoughts on a Sabbatical

By the time you read this, Rev. Norm Horofker will have returned from his sabbatical, no doubt in the wee hours of May 1. I hope that he has been able, in this short time, to study, reflect, and renew his soul.

I am drawn to the coincidence of Norm's return being on May Day, International Labour Day, an opportunity for reflection on working conditions and social justice and also to renew the soul. In Halifax we have the Mayworks Festival of Working People and the Arts throughout the entire month and I encourage you to check out the programme at [mayworkshalifax.ca](http://mayworkshalifax.ca).

Canadians celebrate Labour Day at the end of the summer as a type of new year, including our church programming year. Ingathering Sunday reflects on our soul renewal over the summer and on our year to come. The connection between our society returning to work after Labour Day and our minister returning to us following May Day, seems to me to be serendipitous.

As a labour activist and a UU I have been drawn to the similarities between our Seven Principles and the goals of the labour movement. Compare for example “we should neither condone nor tolerate behaviour that undermines the dignity or self-esteem of any individual” to the UU principle of “the inherent worth and dignity of every person”. Social justice, democracy, and climate justice are also areas where UU and labour mesh.

On May 1, as we welcome back our minister, and reflect on a month without him, let us recognize our UUCH staff: Rev. Norm Horofker, Marie-Claude Leroux, and Sandra Jamieson, as well as our part-time accompanists, Charles Follini and Jessica Friesen.

We must also thank our volunteers who filled in the gaps during Norm's absence, especially Allyn Clarke, Margaret Galbraith, Sylvia Mattinson, Faith Piccolo, Marilyn Shinyei, and Angela Van Amberg.

***Pam Griffin-Hody***  
***Board Member at Large***

## Sunday Service Volunteer Roster — May 2019

tbf: to be filled

Date	Greeter 1	Greeter 2	Early Usher	Late Usher	Early Coffee	Late Coffee
May 05	Anne K-G	Sylvia	Faith P	tbf	Marilyn S	Danielle/Tristan S
May 12	Elinor E-R	tbf	tbf	Mike B	Peter B	Krista L
May 19	Margaret M	Jim M	tbf	Eileen R	tbf	Faith P
May 26	Etta H	tbf	Kathy A	Sylvia M	Doug F	tbf
June 2	Anne K-G	Sylvia M	Angela V	tbf	Marilyn S	Danielle/Tristan S

A big **Thank You!** from all of us to all of you, volunteers!  
More volunteers out there? See Pam or contact her at [pam\\_griffin-hody@carleton.ca](mailto:pam_griffin-hody@carleton.ca)

Little story ...

Six year-old Sue and her four year-old brother Mikey were sitting together during the church service. Mikey sang, giggled and talked out loud.

Finally, his sister had enough.

“You're not supposed to talk out loud in church.” she said.

“Why? Who's going to stop me?” Mikey asked.

Sue pointed to the back of the church and said “See those two men standing by the door? They're hushers.”





Blue Moon, the third full moon in a season  
with four full moons, rising May 18th