



Theme for November 2018: Courage

Universalist Unitarian
Church of Halifax
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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

November 4 "The Courage to be Wrong"

How does it feel to be wrong? The work of Kathryn Schulz tells us that Wile E. Coyote can teach us something about that... and it is not all bad!

Presenter: Rev. Norm Horofker; Service Assistant: Troy Saulnier

November 11 "Fighting Cynicism"

On Remembrance Day we celebrate the willingness of the human spirit to make sacrifices for the collective good. There is nothing more difficult yet more gratifying in our society than living with sincerity and acting from a place of rational faith in the human spirit. This remains the most potent antidote to cynicism... an act of courage and resistance.

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

November 18 "Courage is a Heart Word"

The root of the word courage is cor - the Latin word for heart. In one of its earliest forms, the word courage meant "To act on what your heart was telling you." Over time, this definition has changed, and today we typically associate courage with heroic and brave deeds. This Sunday we will explore the courage of the heart.

Presenter: Rev. Norm Horofker; Service Assistant: Anne Knight-Gorman

November 25 "The People Behind the Art at the Ark in Bridgewater, N.S"

The Ark is a workspace for people with various abilities to learn vocational training. It is an organization that believes in holistic approaches such as building confidence through music, exercise, art and educational skill-building. Finding abilities, demonstrating capabilities, overcoming obstacles. Making meaningful connections in the larger community is truly what The Ark is about.

Presenter: Tabatha Clements; Service Leader: Dean White

Theme for December: Hope

Our Mission

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.



November 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 9:30-11:30 am Parents & Tots Noon Tai Chi		3 10-noon UU Brunch
4 Remembrance Day  Noon: Commitment Sunday 1:15 pm Truth & Reconciliation	5	6	7 4:45-6:15 pm Afterchoir	8 9:30-11:30 am Parents & Tots Noon Tai Chi 6:30 Board meeting	9	10 10-noon UU Brunch Fall back tonight
11 Noon: Worship Comm.	12	13	14 4:45-6:15 pm Afterchoir	15 9:30-11:30 am Parents & Tots Noon Tai Chi Refugees arrive	16	17 10-noon UU Brunch
18 Noon: Humanist Group 1- 4 pm Truth & Reconciliation	19	20	21 4:45-6:15 pm Afterchoir	22 9:30-11:30 am Parents & Tots Noon Tai Chi More refugees arrive	23	24 10-noon UU Brunch 3-5:30 DUP
25 Noon R.E. Committee	26 Noon: Newsletter deadline	27	28 4:45-6:15 pm Afterchoir	29 9:30-11:30 am Parents & Tots Noon Tai Chi	30	

Sunday Nov 4th is Commitment Sunday
a.k.a. Generosity Sunday — a.k.a. the Canvass Kick-off
(We simply cannot make up our mind about this!) 😊

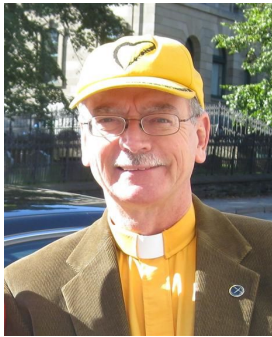


Join us at noon on this date for a **free Soup & Bread Luncheon**, minimal speechifying and great entertainment from the Afterchoir. Friends are entirely welcome!

Enjoy the fellowship of friends old and new, get your fill of a good meal, and get together with your canvasser to make your pledge for the 2019 calendar year. Or make plans to meet later for a calmer personalized visit. Your church is depending on your commitment.

The Canvass Team: Pam Berman, Glenda Butt, Ginny Girard, Margaret & Paul Galbraith, Mia Huh, Sylvia Mattinson, Darla Muzzerall, Marilyn Shinyei and Scott Wood

Minister's Notes



The courage to acknowledge our fallibility

The newsletter deadline day is a special time for me. I am finally compelled to stop putting off what I know I really want to do, but can't find the time for. I am required now to look ahead to the coming month and to think about, and at least sketch the sermon ideas that will be used in the month ahead. My practice has been to look over all the wonderful material that comes from our "Soul Matters" connection and see what material would match the congregation's needs with the minister's ability to communicate.

Hopefully this will be the last month I am doing this on the day of the newsletter deadline (Etta will believe that when she sees it). I refer you to my Notes for October if you wonder what I am talking about here.

The process of reviewing material from Soul Matters (again, see last month's newsletter) is a pleasure. There is so much wonderful material there. This month, the one thing that really caught my eye was a Ted Talk by Katheryn Schultz. She calls herself a "Wrongologist" and studies our natural but misguided need to feel that our interpretation of the facts is always correct. This material has given me the basis for the sermon (and a great children's story) that I hope to present on November 4, so I don't want to reveal too much here.

Katheryn Schultz has me thinking about how many of our interpersonal problems spring from our hesitancy to consider that we may be wrong, that the other person's perspective or opinion may be better than, or at least as valid as, our own. Or, that it might just be best all round if we quit trying to defend our own view of things and allowed a different view to take the lead.

We all need to learn the art of "Stepping Up... and Stepping Back." For some of us, the fear of being wrong, and the stigma that goes with it, prevents us from Stepping UP. When we fail to speak up, or to volunteer to take on a task that may require some risk of failure, we deprive ourselves (and the universe) from the possibility of something really good happening. And when we fail to Step Back we can take on too much for ourselves and turn a wonderful opportunity into a worrisome task, depriving others of an opportunity. This Stepping Back is more than a passive act; it may involve active encouragement to get the other to Step Forward.

The two modes... Stepping Up and Stepping Back are always done in the context of community... and if it sounds like a dance... that is the metaphor I was going for. When our congregation is working well it is like a dance with minister, board, committee chairs, and congregants stepping up and stepping back in harmony with the music of our UU traditions and our mission. And like in a dance, the signals between partners are subtle and need to be attended to.

Our Celebration of Life service honouring the life of Valerie Chapman ended with a hymn and it has been in my mind ever since. "Let it be a dance we do. May I have this dance with you?" A beautiful metaphor—but it can't be realized unless we all learn to Step Up and Step Back at appropriate times.

**With Love,
Norm**

Board Buzz

Hello fellow Universalist Unitarians and friends. Here are some highlights from the board meeting of October 11th.

Minister's sabbatical: A committee will be created to plan for Rev. Norm Horofker's one-month sabbatical some time in the near future, as well as for future, longer sabbaticals.

Revitalized Sunday services: After having held a couple of workshops plus a 'demonstrator' Sunday service, both led by Rev. Wayne Walden on the weekend of September 28th and 30th, we are further refreshed in how we do Sunday services. Thank you to Dean White, our Worship Committee chair, and the committed members who continue to revitalize our Sunday services.

Online members' directory: The secure online members and friends directory can now be accessed on the church website at www.uuch.ca. Obtain access by making a request to Troy Saulnier, Communications chair, at troy.saulnier@gmail.com

Christmas Bazaar: Janet Horofker and other volunteers are organizing the annual Christmas Bazaar fundraiser to take place on Saturday, December 1st. We are expecting good results with your participation and that of your family and friends.

2019 budget: The budget for 2019 was discussed in preparation for the Semi-Annual General Meeting which was to be held on October 28th. Strategies to reduce a possible deficit include reduced spending in a couple of areas. Also helpful in this regard is our not hiring a new music director for the next several months while our true music wants and needs are considered (more on this below).

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

Budget Drive/Commitment Sunday: Commitment Sunday will be held on November 4th, with the canvassing campaign to be ongoing throughout the month.

Two surveys to be held in November:

Vision: The team from last summer's visioning retreat will have the congregation do a brief survey to arrive at our collective VISION for UUCH.

Music: The other survey will seek feedback from the members about our music program, the results of which will help the Music Task Team to arrive at recommendations regarding structuring of and hiring for the church's music program going forward.



Mia Huh
Member at Large
UUCH Board of Directors



Saturday, December 1st, 10 - 2

No admission charge. Lunch - \$5. Coffee & sweets - only \$3.

Left over food, books, giftables, etc. will be available for purchase on Sunday, the 2nd.

On Sundays November **18th** or **25th**, please bring in any of the following that you can contribute to this delightful fundraiser:

"Re-giftable" items with values of \$5 to \$20: Those gifts you've received or items you've bought that are still in the box, or never or barely used... decor, home or kitchen items. Luxe or glam pieces such as ladies' or gents' accessories. (No clothes, please.) Well-crafted items, handknitted wear. Artsy things. Useful things. Nifty-gifty things.

Bake table goodies: Anything goes: bread, squares, cookies, muffins, pies. We need enough for the sale table AND to sell with lunch. *Start your ovens!*

Jams, jellies & preserves: Didn't get around to making any this fall? There's SO MUCH time to do it all before December 1st!

Books published in the last 10 years, like new only:

Two categories ONLY to keep things simple: **Fiction & Non-fiction.**
Hardcover — or trade paperback (large format, soft cover.)

CDS and DVDS: We have a good collection, but feel free to bring us more. The ones you donate might be just the ones people want.

THEN COME TO THE BAZAAR!

COME WITH YOUR FRIENDS, YOUR RELATIVES, YOUR NEIGHBOURS!

The Caring Column

Alison Chipman, long-time member of UUCH, and of both the library and caring committees, was rushed to the Dartmouth General Hospital on September 29th with a serious infection and an illness first appearing as chicken pox. She is now happy to be moving to Northwood on November



1st. We send Alison our best wishes for further recuperation in her new location.

Tanya Bilsbury, our Religious Exploration Director, was back in church this past Sunday following a hospital stay with difficulties related to diabetes with which she is still struggling. We wish Tanya a complete and speedy recovery.

Sylvia Mattinson

From the Refugee Committee News about new arrivals

We now have arrival dates for November. These are the first of the 37 people we are expecting before Dec 31st. A family of parents and 9 children will land about Nov 15th (details to follow).

Another family consisting of parents, 5 children and another woman related to them will arrive on November 22nd at 7:50 pm.

We would love to have members join us at the airport to welcome these groups. We will keep you posted with the details on uinfo.

In the meantime the Constituent Groups are hard at work arranging accommodations, collecting furniture, etc., and getting very excited.

Thanks to your generosity, we have been able to help with that as congregants have offered household goods, furniture, and money for the Backpack Project.

**Andy Blair & Marilyn Shinyei, Co-chairs
UUCH Refugee Committee**

Religious Exploration

As the November newsletter goes to press, our Director of Religious Exploration, Tanya Bilsbury is enroute to Houston Texas to attend the annual meeting of the Liberal Religious Educators Association.

This training opportunity is being funded through the generous gift of Air Miles from our members to cover the flight, a grant from the West Trust, and a scholarship grant from LREDA.



We can be proud that Tanya is the first Canadian DRE to seek formal credentialing. It is a testament to her commitment to the role and the support of her congregation.

Religious Education Credentialing is a UU program that recognizes religious education as a profession and supports and fosters religious educators. This process involves mentoring and formal classroom training. Tanya is fortunate to have Lynn Sabourin, Director of Family Ministries at the North Shore Unitarian Church in Vancouver, as her mentor.

The conference itself is packed with workshops, networking opportunities and worship services. Tanya will also participate in a Youth Ministry Renaissance Module, taking place before the conference begins. This is one of the modules required for credentialing. You can see the LREDA website at www.lreda.org.

Expect to hear more on Tanya's return.

Norm



Hello from Deborah & Devin in Hamilton



My fantastic grandson Darragh (pronounced dare-ah, Irish for 'oak') will be four months old on November 9th! He's growing like a strong little acorn, and his gramma and aunt are delighted with his smiles and cuddles!

Devin is attending a church called The Commons. It's Christian, and loosely affiliated with the Mennonites. They held services outdoors in a park during the summer, and are presently doing a series of services on Ojibwa 7 Grandfather Teachings. She has recently connected with a local transgender group. Also, she enjoyed some outdoor music during the Canadian Country Music Awards in August.

I've found a new Toastmasters club, so am continuing all the great opportunities that provides. I'm attending the Unity church. I craved a 'spiritual home' where there's no nervousness talking about concepts of 'God', 'universal spirit' and the like. It's a good fit for me. I get into Toronto now and then to visit family and friends, mostly via GO Transit.

We recently visited the Royal Botanical Gardens with Curtis, Carly and Darragh. Beautiful place! We have a subscription to the Dundas Little Theatre, and recently saw Anton Chekhov's The Seagull. (Dundas is part of the amalgamated Hamilton.) I have yet to find a fit for my musical inclinations. That will come. Finally, I'm taking an exciting online course leading to a certification. More about that later. — Love and hugs!

Deborah

And from Helen in Kamloops



Greetings, dear Halifax UU friends! Just a brief update from me. Having recently ended a 2.5 year developmental ministry relationship with the UU Fellowship of Kamloops, I am leaving the BC Interior region for the city of Victoria on Vancouver Island. Reasons compelling this move are to be near family (my sister Shirley lives in Victoria), for the temperate climate that is gentle on pedestrians in winter, and proximity to co-housing communities where I am focusing my academic research.

Continuing in a part-time community ministry role as Administrator of the Accessibility and Inclusion Ministry (AIM) Program of the UUA, I believe that stepping back from parish ministry will create space needed for completing my research and dissertation in the multi-year Doctor of Ministry degree program I started in 2013.

Equally game for this new adventure is Camilla, my 8-year old guide dog. Our new address effective December 1st will be 448-1035 North Park Street, Victoria, BC V8T 5A1. My telephone number will remain the same: (250) 572-2018.



Helen

Rev. Helen McFadyen
AIM Administrator
Accessibility and Inclusion Ministry
uua.org/accessibility/aim

Truth and Reconciliation – The Big Picture



Historical map of Mi'kma'ki territory

While Canada's Indigenous peoples are an example of strength, determination and resilience—their leaders influencing everything from environmental conservation, to arts and entertainment, to justice and politics, to how we understand our spiritual connection to creation—the pain and suffering they have endured, inflicted systematically by our government and its institutions, is not a thing of the past but remains the cause of tremendous challenges for Indigenous communities everywhere in Canada. It is also a contributing factor in the dis-“ease” and the dis-“chord” experienced today by many of us Canadians of European ancestry, and probably also by Newcomers.

This is a time of awakening in Canada's history. Our descendants will look back upon this time as a window of opportunity to stand up and become allies, friends and partners of our Indigenous peoples—instead of remaining bullies by ignorance, apathy or indifference. This is the time for Canadians of European ancestry (and Newcomers) to learn and understand the truth of the cultural genocide inflicted upon our Indigenous peoples in the name of colonization. This is a time for taking right action and for making amends. We are in the process of creating a new “recipe” for Canada, with the ingredients of education, respect, healing, acts of reconciliation, and partnership.

The pilot Truth and Reconciliation Reflection Series currently underway at the UUCH is the product of a collaborative process. It was developed with respect, over time, by a committee of the CUC, Indigenous Elders, and a committee of the UUCH.

This series is a wonderful first step that will help us all move forward, hand-in-hand, with our local Indigenous communities. And this first step is part of a much larger cultural awakening across the country—a cultural awakening that honours Indigenous peoples and generates excitement (and perhaps some fear) about a new culture of Canada rising up from the bedrock. This new Canada will be a drastically different Canada—people and nations will walk forward in partnership—as opposed to the tired 400-year-old model of violence, colonization, and dominance of one culture over another.

In order to achieve the brilliant vision and objective described, small groups and communities like ours across Canada need to forge ahead with sustained efforts to educate, heal, reconcile and walk in partnership with their Indigenous friends and neighbours. This ongoing work to create and maintain connections between ourselves and the Indigenous peoples of Turtle Island (North America)—in particular Mi'kma'ki—can become a truly invigorating part of our lives.

Ultimately, it will not only be our Indigenous friends who heal and grow, it will also be us who experience healing, redemption, and growth. This in turn will release our children from perpetuating oblivious acts of dominance and oppression over another culture—and open the door to a new Canada.

UUCH Truth and Reconciliation Task Group

Truth & Reconciliation Reflection Series at UUCH

The following remain:

Nov 4, 1:15 – 4:15 pm

Nov 18, Dec 9, Jan 13, 20, 27, all 1-4 pm

Participation is now limited to those who attended earlier sessions. We hope to repeat this program in the future.

Snow shovellers needed



We are looking for someone to hand shovel the walkway to the church's front door and the fire escape at the rear of the building. We need these pathways and stairs cleared of snow by 8 am on weekdays in order to provide a safe environment for the parents and children arriving

for the Halifax Early Childhood School. (We contract with a service to plow the driveways.)

If two or more people volunteered, you could take turns and shovel less often. Feel free to scout out a possible partner or two and get them to commit along with you. To inquire or commit, contact me at alyn@aol.com or 902-420-0632.

Allyn Clarke

Fall back, Saturday night, Nov 3



Don't forget to set your clocks back Saturday night—arrive at church next morning relaxed and refreshed.

No scents make good sense

Out of consideration for church attendees who are sensitive to certain fragrances, please refrain from coming to church wearing strong personal scents such as colognes, after-shave, hair spray, highly-scented soap, etc. Thank you so much.



UPDATES

ANDERSON, Barb (new friend)
bjander@alumni.uidaho.ed

FEVENS, Douglas (new email address)
dgfevensgmail.com

LAWRENCE, Inga (new address)
203-76 Armenia Drive
Bedford, NS B4A 0J9

McCANN, Peggy (new friend) 902-471-3109
505-3083 Olivet Street
Halifax, NS B3L 4R2 pm10022010@gmail.com

McFADYEN, Rev. Helen (new address eff. Dec 1)
448-1035 North Park Street
Victoria, BC V8T 5A1

WELTON, Marie (new friend) 902-423-3265
5551 Atlantic Street
Halifax, NS B3H 1G6 weltonmarie@yahoo.com

WIGGINS, Deborah & Devin (new address, etc.)
4-142 Duke Street
Hamilton, ON L8P 1X7
Home phone for both 1-289-639-2952
Deborah's cell (text/voice mail) 902-830-7181
Email addresses for both remain unchanged

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for submissions for the December newsletter is 12 noon,

Monday, November 26th.

Please send your submissions to both
braeside@eastlink.ca
AND
uuchurch@eastlink.ca

