



Fundy Wave
**Newsletter of the
 Unitarian Universalist
 Congregation of Saint John**

Unitarian Universalist religious services take place every Sunday at 10.30 a.m. at our building, 545 Sandy Point Road, in the north end of Saint John, New Brunswick. See “Sunday services” in this monthly newsletter for details.

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1 -- SUNDAY SERVICES IN JUNE – at 10.30 a.m.

June 7 - The Rev. Anne Treadwell, a visiting minister from Nova Scotia, will lead the service. **What Is Worship?** Let’s think about what it is we are doing when we come together on Sunday mornings. Some of us may be uncomfortable with the words “service” and “worship”, preferring to speak of a “meeting for exploring ideas”. Yet worship... worth-ship, or the shaping of worth, keeps happening whenever we come together to affirm our values and express our sense of the highest and best in life. This morning will be ABOUT worship and, if we do those things, it will also BE worship.

2 -- June 14 - Planting Sunday: The Flower Communion. Service leader, Kathleen Webster. Today, we do our annual planting of flowers. This tradition was started back when we were at Carleton Community Centre and it gave us a great sense of pride and joy to beautify our surroundings. Thus we have continued the tradition at our new church and have named it the **Doreen Crammond Memorial Garden.**

Today is a day of celebration. Included in the service will be the new members ceremony, a bridging ceremony and the planting. Please bring ANNUAL flowers. If you have any questions, please call Kathleen at 632-8084 or email at websterf@nb.sympatico.ca.

Memorial Garden:

The Doreen Crammond Memorial Garden will be expanded this year, we will be continuing to work on the fenced-in area at the back. The grand plan is to transform that area into an inviting restful space that we can all enjoy in the warmer months of the year. It is a beautiful way to pay tribute to loved ones who have died. If you would like to donate a plant or shrub for the garden please contact me at 632-8084. I will consult with Bob Smith or Theresa Koppert (our resident experts) as to what kind of plant would be best. We can always use help, so if you would like to work in the garden please let me know. **--Kathleen**

June 21 – Annual general meeting of the congregation

Members will elect seven people to the Board of Trustees for 12 months (July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010). The nominating committee is presenting a slate of seven candidates, two of whom have never served on the board.

The membership will also vote on the budget for 2009-2010, and consider plans for the next year's activities.

The annual meeting is open to all members and friends. While non-members may speak during the annual meeting, members are the only ones entitled to vote.

A formal notice of the meeting, together with the agenda, has to be sent to all members 15 days before the meeting date.

June 28 – A sharing circle where everyone will be invited to read a favourite piece of poetry or prose and make a brief comment. Co-ordinated by Connie Humphrey.

3 -- ACTIVITIES IN JULY Dates not yet decided

1 -- SUNDAY PICNIC AT OAK POINT with the Fredericton UU Fellowship.

2—JOINT SUNDAY SERVICE with Centenary-Queen Square United Church at UUCSJ, 545 Sandy Point Road.

4 -- SPRING ORIENTATION PROGRAM

Everyone, whether you are a friend of the congregation, a seasoned member or just curious about who we are, please come join us for a day of information and interaction about what it means to be a Unitarian Universalist. We will present our spring orientation programme Saturday, June 6th from 8:40 a.m. till around 4 p.m. The day will be divided into four sessions with a coffee break both during the morning and the afternoon and a potluck at lunchtime.

The two morning sessions will focus on the history of UUism and the history of our congregation, the UU philosophy, the seven principles we strive to live by, UU rituals, spirituality and ministry.

The two afternoon sessions will talk about what it means to be a welcoming congregation, lay chaplains and their roles, membership responsibility, the function of the board of trustees, a time for Q&A and participant feedback. Presenters of this program will be George Allen, Susanna Flagel, Kathleen Webster and Betty Tattersall.

Those who participate and wish to become members of UUCSJ will be welcomed to the congregation at the June 14th Flower Communion Sunday service led by Kathleen Webster.

For more information and to reserve your seat, please contact Kathleen at 632-8084.

There will also be a sign-up sheet at the back of the sanctuary until Sunday May 31st.

LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ALL!

5 --WOMEN AT THE WELL

The women did it differently on May 21st. Seven of them got together on their regular meeting date to attend the theatre -- *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* -- performed by the Saint John Theatre Company at the Imperial Theatre. Next meeting: Thursday, June 18th at 6 p.m.

6 -- Shavings from the Board -- by Fred Webster

Ministerial Search Committee

The Board of Trustees has undertaken what they hope is a well-planned and consultative approach to search for professional ministerial services to replace Rev. Kitsy. In order to do this, we are taking advice from others who have done this before, and have consulted with CUC resources. Additionally, we have established a committee who will during the course of the next several months be consulting with the congregation and developing a profile of what sort of ministerial services are preferred. They will then look at options that may be available.

This is what has been done so far:

- After the congregational decision to not renew Kitsy for next year, Connie Humphrey and I had a conversation with Rev. Ray Drennan about the methodology of conducting a ministerial search. Ray serves the CUC (and I believe UUA, as well) as a Ministerial Settlement Representative, and assists congregations in going through a search process. Formally, Ray does not actually do settlement work for congregations who are hiring at less than 80% time, but he has offered invaluable and ongoing advice to us. Because of the close relationship this congregation has with Rev. Ray, we did approach him about the possibility of hiring him. He declined, but did offer to do three services for us this coming year. Additionally, I have contacted Rev. Carole Martignacco who is the president of the UU Ministers of Canada, to simply inform her of our intentions.

- During the Bouctouche weekend, we had informal conversations with folks from Halifax about how they went about finding a new minister. (Although it is recognized that there is a great difference in the situations, as their congregation is in a position to hire full time.)

- The Board has established a Ministerial Search Committee, with Caroline Smith as Chair. As of this writing, the other two members of the committee have not been confirmed, but within the next couple of months, the committee will begin outlining its work plan and consulting with congregational members and friends, either individually, in small groups or congregational meetings. The committee been asked report back to the Board of Trustees by January, 2010. It is expected that during the coming months, everyone in the congregation will have time to reflect on the type of ministerial services we need, and we can then be in a position by Spring of 2010 to advertise for a Consulting Minister.

- In the meantime, the Worship Committee is going ahead with planning for several visits by professional ministers during the coming church year.

It is important to keep in mind that every source of advice, tells us to take our time to clearly define the type of ministry we want, before proceeding to the next step - i.e. a contract for consulting ministry. Very briefly, there are generally three types of ministry - (a) interim, (b) consulting and (c) settled. Since we will unlikely be in a position to "call" a settled minister for some time, our goal is to hire a consulting minister (for a specified, part time duration). Obviously, our present stage is interim ministry, while aiming for consulting ministry beginning in the summer of 2010.

The Ministerial Search Committee will provide regular updates to the Board, and anyone who has any questions either about the process, or its progress, should not hesitate to contact either Caroline or me for further information. -- *Fred*

7 -- Next Membership Committee meeting - Sunday, June 14th after the service.
Next Board of Trustees meeting - Tuesday, June 16th at 6 pm

8 -- GETTING TO KNOW YOU**HENDRIEN KIPPERS**

Did you know that Holland is not a country but the name of two western provinces in The Netherlands and that a member of our congregation was born some 81 years ago in a churchless home in Groningen, located in the northern part of the Netherlands?

Hendrien Kippers was one of four children born to Anna and Heiko van Dijken. Her father was a teacher among other occupations and her mother was a homemaker. Just before WW II started, the family moved to a suburb of Zwolle, about 100 km to the south of Groningen, where she spent her adolescence. During the war, her parents were involved in the Resistance Movement and in 1944 the family had to go "underground" until after the war as someone had told of their hiding Jews from the Nazis.

It was in 1944 that Hendrien met her future husband, Roy Kippers. They married in 1946 and their eldest child was born in 1947. Roy went to work in Dutch East India in 1947. Hendrien and their son joined him in 1948. They all returned home in 1950 and Roy then went to the West Indies to work. Hendrien stayed home.

1950 was the year Hendrien's whole family immigrated to Canada and settled in Clarkson, Ontario. Hendrien came to Canada for a visit and her husband joined her soon after. Canada became Hendrien's new home. They remained in Ontario for nine years and had six more children. In 1960, Hendrien and Roy and the children moved to the Saint John area where Roy worked at the Irving Refinery. He worked for Irving for 12 years and the family grew with three more children. Home was in Quispamsis for the family of ten children.

Roy then retired and opened a wood-working shop.

Hendrien has had a most interesting life. In 1968, she was one of ten Saint Johners to get the ball rolling for the first co-op store on the west side, the first one in New Brunswick! This led to a second store on the east side. She was also involved with the local home and school organization when her ten children were younger and was also known in the neighbourhood as the UNICEF Lady!

She took a cross-Canada trip on her own in 1980. In 1981 she enrolled at UNBSJ and completed an Arts degree in English Literature. She graduated in August, 1993.

Hendrien has many hobbies. She enjoys traveling, listening to baroque music, cross-stitching and reading. Favourite authors are Ann Michaels and Ursula Hegi. She swims regularly at the Aquatic Centre and is an avid walker. In fact, to celebrate her 78th birthday, she took the ferry to Digby and walked from Digby to Yarmouth, where one of her sons lives. He had invited her to help christen a sailboat that he and a friend had built.

She has written a book on her childhood for her children and enjoys writing poetry.

Although a broken hip, caused by a car accident in October 2007, did slow her down a bit, she's in very good health and is busy planning a trip to Whitehorse this fall.

Hendrien became a Quaker during the 1980's because she felt at home with this group. It suited her values and her lifestyle. After she moved to Saint John, a chance meeting with Martha Vowles brought her to UUCSJ doors where she has been a member for the past year. When describing Saint John, she says it is the people who make the town a pleasant place to live. "They are so helpful!"

9 -- JUNE AND JULY BIRTHDAYS

Doug Devine June 1st

Naomi Frooman June 4th

Monet Comeau June 5th

Gretchen Kelbaugh June 7th

Joost von Weiler June 8th

Betty Tattersall June 28 1948

Paul Bundschuh July 3rd

Sharon Flatt July 17th

Kevin McNeil July 18th

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU ALL!

10 --Paper Goods For The Church

A year and a half ago, the "church" sent a letter to Santa, asking for gifts of toilet paper, paper towels, Kleenex, paper hand towels for the washrooms, along with various and sundry items for the kitchen; stir sticks, tin foil, Zip Lock bags, packages of cookies and tea. "Santa" responded very generously, and since then we have managed well. Now the paper goods cupboard is running low but it's not Christmas, so the "church" is appealing to the spirit of Santa in each of us that we might help to fill up the shelves. When you come to the Annual General Meeting on June 21st any gift you might contribute to help restock our paper goods will be gratefully accepted at that time.

Thank you! on behalf of the "church"

11 -- A QUESTION FOR INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

Do you know of someone who identifies as Unitarian Universalist, but who is unable to attend church services because of geography, schedule or physical abilities?

Thanks to 'retired' minister Rev. Anne Treadwell, there is a rejuvenated Individual Members network, which includes people who are official Individual Members and those who want to stay connected with others in this way.

To learn more and to read the monthly newsletter, visit:
www.cuc.ca/programs/individual_members.htm

12 -- GAY MARRIAGE IN THE UNITED STATES

Maine is the latest state to have its legislature approve gay marriage rights, with the change to take effect later this year. There are now five states approving gay marriage: Massachusetts in 2004, Connecticut in 2008, and Iowa, Vermont and Maine in April and May of this year.

In California, the state supreme court on May 26th upheld a voter-approved constitutional amendment that bans marriage equality in the state. But the court ruling lets stand 18,000 same-sex marriages performed last year when such marriages were legal. The move to ban same-sex marriage was approved in a referendum in California last November.

13 --THE WORK LIST

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Welcomer</u> | <u>Refreshments</u> |
|-------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| June 7 | George Legris | Fred Webster & Heidi Bundschuh |
| June 14 | Jack Crammond | Kaye Smith & Bob Smith |
| June 21 | George Legris | Caroline Smith & Doug Devine |
| June 28 | George Allen | Betty Tattersall & Lars Lund |

(#1- cream & snacks #2- extras & clean up)

ROMERO HOUSE

Sun. June 21 – Judith Pollock, David Pollock, Walter Henry, Joanne Britton (9 a.m. to 1 p.m.)

14 -- DIFFERENT STROKES FOR DIFFERENT FOLKS

Humanism has been around for hundreds of years and its principles are very similar of those of Unitarian-Universalists and we all have to deal with people who are different from us every day. Their lives are so different in fact, that we need to understand what they are all about. .

A Christian and his neighbour, a humanist, were standing in their respective front yards looking up at the sky. The Christian was looking for God, the humanist was looking to see what the weather would be. The humanist, looking at his neighbour was now wondering why Christians were involved in wars all the time as Peace was his own main focus. He was thinking how different they were. His neighbour's vision was vertical and concentrating on that God in the sky, while he, as humanist, was focusing horizontally, in fact he was more concerned about his neighbour, because he seemed fearful for the wrath of his God. He could not understand his concentration on a book that was full of myths and had many parts contradicting each other. How could he say that the world was not very old, while scientists proved that the world is millions of years old and that man had developed gradually over all those years.

His neighbour's minister warns him every Sunday, that the Lord is coming back and if he does not change his ways, terrible things will happen to him. If he falls and hurt himself, it would be because the Lord is punishing him and when this Lord arrives, he might not go to Heaven. He liked his neighbour, but would never talk about religion with him, because he did not want to hurt his feelings.

What a difference with the neighbour on the other side. He is Irish and Roman Catholic. Whatever he believes, it is not interfering with his enjoyment of life. He has lots of friends and in mid March, he has a whole week of frolicking, because of St. Patrick's week. He enjoys life to the fullest and he loves his family and every day is a wonderful adventure. He does charitable work, not because he is forced to, but he wants to, as he loves people and wants to help. The humanist himself feels comfortable in his UU church, where everyone has the same interests and where they look after each other and their needs can be provided right here on earth and not in a pretend world up in the sky.

He was thinking of Edward Schempp, who was a social activist and regular churchgoer at a local Unitarian congregation in California and who died recently at age 95. He was the father of Ellery Schempp who, while a junior at Abington High School, decided that he wanted to challenge the mandatory reading of passages from the Bible in his homeroom. . His parents were supportive and, according to the Philadelphia Inquirer, on November 26, 1956, Ellery decided to read passages from the Koran instead of the Bible. That earned him a trip to the Principal's office. He asked for help from the American Civil Liberties Union, launching the legal case of School District of Abington Township versus Schempp which would not be decided until 1963. The Schempp family endured no small amount of vitriol and attacks for their decision to stand up for religious liberty, but all of us now enjoy greater freedom, because of the Schempps.

Ellery's father was the plaintiff in the Supreme Court case during which eventually Bible reading in U.S. public schools was declared unconstitutional. After this declaration he wrote: "Unitarian-Universalism is a fierce belief in the way of freedom and reverence for the sacred dignity of each individual. It is cooperation with the universe that created us. It is a celebration of life. It is the beginning of love with goodness and justice. It is a sense of humour about absolutes. Unitarian-Universalists have faith in people, hope for tomorrow's child and confidence in a continuity, that spans all time. It looks not towards a perfect heaven, but to a good earth. It is respectful of the past, but not limited to it. It is trust in growing and conspiracy with change. It is spiritual responsibility for a moral tomorrow". ____JvW

15 -- QUINN'S GRADUATION

Quinn Pinco-Hartman graduated from Mount Allison University in Sackville as a Bachelor of Science on May 26th. Quinn plans to continue at the University of New Brunswick in Fredericton in the fall, where she will study for a degree in nursing.

16 --Best wishes to Martha Vowles & Bill Toner, married May 30, 2009

17 -- SAGAN BOOK STUDY

Only two sessions remaining on Carl Sagan's book, *The Varieties of Spiritual Experience*. The group will meet at 7 p.m. on the first two Mondays in June – June 1st and June 8th.

18 -- Dollars & cents

PLEDGE DRIVE - Sun. May 24 -- \$ 31,360 -- 76% of objective.

YARD SALE – May 2 & 9 -- \$ 853. An extra effort by Joan and George Allen at the east-side flea market brought in \$ 93 of the total.

19 -- SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

May 3 – 18 total

May 10 (Mother's Day) 22 + 3 children

May 17 – 31 + 4

May 24 28

20 -- THANK YOU!

The Membership Committee would like to thank everyone who volunteered their time this year to help in the life of our congregation. Without you, we would not be!
THIS IS HOW WE BUILD A COMMUNITY!

The Fundy Wave hits the shore every month but July.

DEADLINE FOR AUGUST – FRIDAY, JULY 24

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JUNE 2009

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|--|-----------|---|--|---|
| | 1 7 pm Book Study – Carl Sagan X | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 7-9 pm PFLAG meets @ 116 Coburg No meetings July & Aug | 6 8.40 am-4 pm Spring orientation X |
| 7 10.30 am Rev Anne Treadwell WHAT IS WORSHIP? | 8 7 pm Book Study – Carl Sagan - final | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 10.30 am Kathleen Webster PLANTING SUNDAY & WELCOME NEW MEMBERS ----- Member cttee meets @ noon | 15 | 16 6 pm Board of Trustees meets | 17 | 18 6 pm Women at the Well X | 19 | 20 |
| 21 10.30 am ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Romero House (9am- 1pm) | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 10.30 am SHARING CIRCLE (Read poetry & prose) – Connie H. | 29 | 30 | | | | |

X on the calendar = Look for more details in newsletter