



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

Unitarian Universalist religious services take place every Sunday -- except July and August -- 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 newsletter for details.

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1 -- **SUNDAY SERVICES IN SEPTEMBER – at 10.30 a.m.**

Sept. 6 -- (Labour Day weekend) **NO SERVICE.** – Clean-up of the grounds and building, so bring useful tools and implements.

Sept. 13 – **INGATHERING SERVICE.** Service leaders: Carol MacDonald & Kathleen Webster.

Ingathering is a time when we come together after the summer holidays. It is customary to bring water or sand from where you have spent time over the summer, this could be far, far away or as near as your back yard. Bring your story and share it with your church community (with or without water or sand). It may be a happy story or one of sadness, so it's not all about happy vacations. It is our stories that keep us connected.

Sept. 20 – **“ONE SIZE FITS ALL”** Not so today, if it ever was! We may be Universalists, but certainly not a universal fit. We are now well into the "Pick and Choose" Society in religion as much as in everything else.... So, in thriving and less than thriving UU Congregations, who is picking us? We'll start discussion Sunday with a presentation on the topic, and then see where it goes. All are welcome. Come to join in or just to listen. Co-ordinator – Doug Devine.

Sept. 27 – Unitarians, Universalists, and freethinkers in general, have often found the Biblical books of Job and Ecclesiastes to provide rich material for reflection. Our guest minister is the Rev. Maury Landry of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Caribou, Maine. He will share his perspective on Ecclesiastes by way of the first recorded death in the Bible. His message: “THE CAINE MUTINY”. See ABOUT MAURY (Pg 5 # 12)

2 -- LOOKING FOR A LAY CHAPLAIN

Because of time constraints, **Don Flatt** has had to resign from the position of UUCSJ Lay Chaplain.

The Board of Trustees is soliciting interest from members of the congregation who may wish to fill this position, which will normally be for six years. Applications must be submitted to Andrea Jeffery, Chair of the Lay Chaplaincy Committee, by not later than September 15th. A recommendation from the Lay Chaplaincy committee will be referred to the next Board of Trustees meeting on September 17th. At that point, a nomination will be made to the CUC Lay Chaplaincy Committee, and the appointment will be made official.

The CUC has a very comprehensive website that outlines the application, evaluation and certification process - http://cuc.ca/lay_chaplaincy/index.htm

Fred Webster President, Board of Trustees

3 -- ELECTION – June 21 2009

NEW BOARD OF TRUSTEES – 2009-2010

(July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010)

President: Fred Webster	Three trustees
Vice President: Connie Humphrey	Susanna Flagel
Treasurer: Frank Loomer	Andrea Jeffery
Clerk (Secretary): Laurel Comeau	Bob Smith

Nominating committee for next year (2010-11)

Chair: Andrea Jeffery with Heidi Bundschuh and Betty Tattersall

Two new faces on the Board – Laurel Comeau and Susanna Flagel. They replace Lydie von Weiler and Tony Smith, both of whom served for several years. A truckload of thanks to Lydie and Tony for all their work and effort.

4 -- Fundy Wave– Under new management

Beginning with the current September issue, **Tony and Caroline Smith** will gradually take over the publication of this newsletter. Over the next few months, Tony and Caroline will work with the outgoing editor – George Legris—as they brush up on the skills needed to produce *The Fundy Wave* month by month.

This newsletter goes out by e-mail to most readers, as well as by post to those who get it print on paper. It also appears regularly on the church web site at www.uucsj.org. Over the last nine years, this newsletter has grown from a single sheet to 10 pages. With Tony and Caroline running it, look for continuing improvements. **–George Legris**

5 -- MINISTERIAL SEARCH COMMITTEE

Our Committee has met several times since June, to begin the process of determining the direction our congregation wishes to take, in our search for a consulting minister. We have sought advice from Linda Thomson of the Canadian Unitarian Council and Ray Drennan, who has been in consultation with the Transition Office of the UUA. The literature and protocols have been our starting point. Now we must apply these to our search.

Essentially we need to determine who we are, what we want, and where we want to go. This will take time and patience. As Ray says, "enjoy the in-between", "don't be in a hurry", "this transition can be transformational"!

As a ministerial search committee, we are tasked with preparing a congregational profile and a ministerial profile which must be submitted in October of the year of the decision to hire. To do it right, we will be conducting a survey, meeting in small focus groups and individually with members and friends of our church.

To begin the process, a Congregational survey has been prepared and we expect to have it in the mail by mid-September. This is just the beginning but it is an important first step. Please take your time when filling it out because your words count.

The surveys are due on October 4, with a final deadline of October 18 *--Caroline Smith*

6 -- SUSANNA FLAGEL: AT THE A-C-M IN THUNDER BAY

I flew to Thunder Bay in May (touchingly funded by my atheist husband, David), to enjoy the fun accommodations with my sister's rambunctious household in order to attend my first Unitarian Universalist Annual Conference and Meeting at my alma mater, Lakehead University. I was sent as one of two official delegates representing the UUCSJ. . Judith Pollock, a seasoned delegate of past ACM's and thinking long on ways to encourage UU youth, stepped-up to the plane reservationist at the eleventh hour and truly -- Answered the Call, 2009's ACM's theme -- by accompanying her sons, Andrew and David, plus Kaleb McNeil, at this national in-gathering. She was Saint John's Official DD -- Den-Mother and Delegate..

Largely, the ACM was a positive experience, the UU spirit and flesh in great abundance: the Agora, spacious first entry to LU filled with eager host UU's/information/snacks/fair trade goods; the fiddler's surprise reel at the Banner Procession's end had the packed, main cafeteria clap, hoot, and some dance!; the youth's self-possession & other-respect a wonder to behold; the food fabulous; to a tired, little group at 8 a.m., Ottawa UU minister, Dr. Fred Cappuccino, movingly reiterates our light within; keynote speaker Knoxville, Tennessee UU preacher, Chris Buice, relates, historically, their congregation's light without -- *we are [still here in the Deep South after what we've stood for and done] what we do* -- and that much still needs to be done for the rights and freedoms that their Canadian brethren enjoy.

However, the details of UU-ism, i.e., stated aims, certain teaching points, etc., heard or read in my classes, some meetings, and a few speeches, were often not fully addressed; rather, issues or facts were often left to the attendees to sort out (at the last minute, occasionally), what *they* thought were salient for focus. For example, the *National Identity* course found groups discussing and composing, visually, what an ideal UU community would look like. Perhaps prematurely, I had expected this course to have presented what the National Identity Committee had learned so far from its own survey. The course *The Intersect Between Religion and Philosophy* was a class and professor discussion. I opine it involved more opinion than reasoned debate.

In short, the theme for 2009's ACM was Answering the Call. It was well-answered by 300 or more UU's. The Call to **what**, however, was not specified clearly nor often.

--Susanna Flagel

7 -- **IMAGININGS** -- *from Kitsy*

Dear Ones: As I write this on July 24th, almost two months have elapsed since I spent my "farewell" weekend with you at the very end of May. And what a weekend it was, beginning for me with the wedding rehearsal for Martha's and Bill's wedding the following day. Then the wedding itself: the first to be held in your "new" church, and the first wedding of a member at which I had the privilege and joy of being the officiant (with Heidi's assistance so everything would be legal). What a glorious event, how wonderful for me that it was when it was.

Sunday morning was another celebration: of eight years of "mutual ministry". The DVD which Frank created to honor my ministry among you was so beautifully crafted that, despite the fact that I don't enjoy seeing pictures of myself. I was moved to tears. And the cake: inscribed with "For Joy"! And the Flaming Chalice pendant which I have been wearing a lot throughout the summer, eliciting great responses from those who see it. Cards, other little gifts, e-mails of well-wishing and gratitude - all will be treasured, as will the eight years of memories we made together. I look forward to my visit with you sometime in the next year (I was informed by reliable sources that it had already been budgeted).

In the meantime, among a number of activities, I am excitedly and happily preparing for the coming church year here in Portland, at First Parish UU. Having served them last year as one of four ministers, this year there will be two of us serving them as "interim" ministers (actually I very much prefer the term "transition companions"), while First Parish searches for a new settled minister. I must say that I love being back in an urban church, a historical church, a multi-staffed church. Not that I haven't loved serving virtually all of the eleven UU churches and fellowships I have been with since my ordination in 1982. And you, my Saint John beloveds, are right at the top of that list! I will forever feel ever so fortunate as well as privileged to have been invited into your life - and into your lives. I can't bear the thought of maybe never having had the chance to know and to love you.

Now, here's my (repeated) invitation to all of you: On Sunday, October 18th at 10 a.m. (EDT), First Parish UU here in Portland will be celebrating the 200th anniversary of officially declaring itself Unitarian, finally pulling away from the "Standing Order" of a rather dour form of Protestant Calvinism. I'd LOVE to see you here on that day. I know some of you have already put the date in your appointment book (or its electronic equivalent).

Between now and then - or between now and when I next show up in Saint John, please know that I continue to cheer on "The Little Congregation That Could". Keep chugging along (merrily, I pray). And know that if I can ever be of help in any way (that doesn't violate UU ministerial guidelines) I am here. With bouquets of gratitude and joyous memories and love, -- *Kitsy*

8 -- **THE WORK LIST**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Welcomer</u>	<u>Refreshments</u>
Sept. 6	N/A	George Legris & Connie Humphrey
Sept. 13	George Allen	Joan Allen & Joanne Britton
Sept. 20	Jack Crammond	Caroline Smith & Heidi Bundschuh
Sept. 27	Phil Jeffery	Andrea Jeffery & Nancy Hemsworth
Oct. 4	Doug Breen	Anne Marie Breen & Carol MacDonald (#1- cream & snacks #2- extras & clean up)

ROMERO HOUSE

Sun. Sept. 20 – Judith Pollock, David Pollock, Kaye Smith, Bob Smith, Kaleb McNeil (9 a.m. to 1 p.m.)

A DATE TO REMEMBER

Sept. 17 (Thursday) Board of Trustees meeting – 6 pm at UUCSJ, 545 Sandy Point Road

9 -- POSSIBLE LUNCH PROGRAM at Hazen White-St. Francis School

During the past year, UUCSJ has been assisting in serving a soup lunch to the students of Hazen White-St. Francis School, once a month. In June, I helped with a macaroni and tomato lunch that had been prepared by the teachers and staff of the school, and it occurred to me that our congregation might be able to do help out occasionally.

Although I have not discussed this with the Principal of HWSF, I am quite certain that an offer would be gratefully accepted.

So I am proposing that we have some discussion within the congregation about preparing and serving a hot lunch, once a month. Something like a pasta-based meal, or hearty soup or stew. We could prepare it at the church a day or two before and leave it with the school and/or help serve it. As I said, there has been no commitment made to the school - this is merely to start a discussion to see if there is sufficient interest to take on the project. I will volunteer to organize things for the first few months. This project will not affect the current volunteer rotation that we do for Romero House. Let's talk about it, *--Fred*

10 -- CAMPUS MINISTRY

The campus ministry at UNBSJ will celebrate the opening of the university fall term with a welcoming activity that all students are invited to attend. The UU representative on the campus ministry is Joanne Britton. The celebration takes place in the university library building, on Tuesday, September 29th from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

11 -- WHO IS GOING WHERE?

Quinn Pinco-Hartman, who obtained a BSc from Mount Allison University in Sackville, goes next to UNB in Fredericton, to study nursing.

Andrew Pollock begins in Arts at McGill University in Montreal, and is thinking of geography and urban planning,

Elizabeth Drennan is going into her second year at Renaissance College, UNB Fredericton, to study the inter-disciplinary philosophy of leadership

12 -- ABOUT MAURY LANDRY (Sunday, September 27)

Maury Landry is an ordained minister with standing in the Unitarian Universalist Association and the United Church of Christ. He has been the professional religious leader of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Caribou, Maine for ten years, and previous to that, the First Universalist Society of Hartland Four Corners, Vermont, for nine years. He is a Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselor, as well as a Certified Clinical Supervisor, in the State of Maine. He maintains membership in the American Association of Pastoral Counselors, and is the called Spiritual Counseling and Addictions Minister for the Hammond Street Congregational Church in Bangor, where he also offers spiritual direction. He is a trained Interim Minister and Consultant.

The hobbies which he and his spouse, Judy, share include travel, especially to the Atlantic Maritimes, beach combing, and spoiling their feline family members. They have two adult daughters: Terrie, a physical therapist, resides in Bangor, and Jessica, an analytical chemist, lives in New Jersey. Maury models self-care with his daily spiritual and physical disciplines.

13 -- ORIENTATION PROGRAM

The Orientation Program Committee has decided to wait until next spring to offer its information session to prospective new members. Look for our announcement in the May 2010 issue of the *Fundy Wave*.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

This popular section of the newsletter, giving biographical highlights on members and friends, will return in the October issue.

14 -- A VERY SPECIAL BOOK -- “Unexpected Journey” by Joost R. Von Weiler

This fascinating book is the story of a life in three different countries, in very different circumstances each time. Life in the Netherlands during the German occupation in World War Two presented difficulties and horrors difficult to visualise for most of us, and necessitated constant vigilance and awareness just to stay alive. Joost studied at the internationally renowned Amsterdam Typographical School, and planned to become a journalist, but fate intervened to change direction for him. In the years immediately after the war the Netherlands Indies were in an uprising for independence, and Joost was conscripted into the army, to spend three years fighting rebel forces. After much action, and the loss of many of his comrades, he returned home, and prepared to move to Canada.

There he married a Dutch girl, started a family and settled down in his chosen country. There were medical problems to deal with, for some family members, and these were confronted and dealt with as had been so many other difficulties.

An “Unexpected Journey” covering over 60 years, each one lived fully and courageously, and always with the bright side firmly in view.

Any one who wishes to buy the book can contact Joost, who will have copies available.

15 -- BOOKS & LIBRARIES

This congregation maintains a small library. You will find it in the small office at the back of the church sanctuary, and it is open to all members and friends. The library catalog has just been revised and brought up to date. If you want to borrow a book (173 adult titles and 17 children’s) all you have to do is write down the title, date and your name on the sheet at the back of the catalog.

We also have a regional library, kept in a cabinet on the ground floor. This library, run by Andrea Jeffery, consists of books supplied by the Canadian Unitarian Council. The cabinet has a list of titles on its door. If you find a book you want, get in touch with Andrea.

Finally, if you have books from either library, please remember to bring them back!

16 -- C-U-C POETRY CHAPBOOK

The Editorial Committee of the annual poetry chapbook is seeking submissions of poetry (a maximum of five poems per submission, each poem should be 45 lines or less including title and blank lines), from Canadian Unitarians or Unitarian residents of Canada, on the theme HOW SHALL WE LIVE.

The poems will be considered for publication in our fourth professionally published chapbook, to be launched at the next CUC Annual Conference & Meeting (May, 2010).

Please submit unpublished material to: Jo-Anne Elder at eldergomes@yahoo.com, or mail to Jo-Anne Elder, 180 Liverpool Street, Fredericton, NB E3B 4V5. Attention: CUC Chapbook, by November 30, 2009.

Please also include a 50-word bio. Include a self-addressed stamped envelope if you are submitting by post and want a reply. All will receive notification of acceptance by March 21, 2010.

The editors also seek submissions of art work for the cover or a complete cover design including text - please send your own created colour images to Janet Vickers at tojan@smartt.com with name, address and bio.

17 -- NO EASTERN REGIONAL CONFERENCE THIS FALL

That’s the latest word from the central office of Canadian Unitarian Council in Toronto. No reason given, but finances may be the problem. The conference is usually in early November.

18 -- WORKING IN HONDURAS

The First Unitarian Congregation of Toronto, in partnership with World Accord, invites you to help build schools in the mountains of Honduras. This is a hands-on opportunity to make a difference in the lives of subsistence farmers and their families.

Please join a two-week trip: beginning November 7, 2009, January 16, February 13 or March 13, 2010. Construction and Spanish language skills are not required but would be welcomed. For more information contact Richard Kirsh in Toronto (416-767-5837) or by e-mail at richardkirsh@sympatico.ca. The First Unitarian Congregation in Toronto has been doing this kind of work in Latin America since 1997.

19 -- GAY PRIDE PARADE – Saturday, August 15

This year's parade in Saint John was not as big as in past years, perhaps because the first word about it was that Pride Week would be cancelled for 2009. All that changed a couple of weeks later, when a new group of volunteers stepped in. The route if the parade was changed – going around King's Square, down King Street to Water Street, then to Pugsley Park on the waterfront.

The marchers also did something different. About 12 of them carried a large rainbow flag (6 meters x 12 m) along the parade route.

Five members of the UU congregation joined the parade and carried a UU sign of their own. To see photos, go to www.portcityrainbowpride.com

Next meeting of PFLAG (Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays) Fri. 4 Sep. 7 pm, 116 Coburg St.

20 -- Gay marriage creeps ahead in US

New Hampshire is the latest state to approve gay marriage, effective in January. Six states (out of 50) are now on the list. The others are Massachusetts, Connecticut, Iowa, Vermont and Maine.

21 – GOING BILINGUAL IN SPANISH

Canada switched to bilingual labels 35 years ago, a move that amused and shocked many Francophones since, at first, the French labels were full of errors. Something similar took place this year in the US, where the Unitarian Universalist Association elected its first Hispanic president, Rev. Peter Morales. Dr. Morales explains the problem in this letter:

Dear Friends: I felt a special pride and satisfaction when our new Spanish language hymnal, *Las voces del camino* (Voices on the Journey), was published a few weeks ago. At General Assembly in Salt Lake City I was moved as we sang "*Cansado del camino*" ("Weary from the journey"), one of the hymns in the hymnal.

Unfortunately, we have learned that the hymnal contains a large number of serious errors. These mistakes are not the sort of minor errata that can wait to be corrected in a new edition. It is with deep sadness that I have determined that we must stop sale and distribution of *Las voces del camino*.

We will correct the errors and publish a new edition. I cannot give a new date of publication yet, but I assure you that this is a top priority. Everyone who has purchased a copy will receive a replacement. We will review our procedures to ensure that such mistakes do not happen again. I apologize to everyone who waited with such anticipation for this Spanish hymnal. I share your frustration with this delay. We will learn from this mistake. We will publish a corrected version of which we can be proud.

Unitarian Universalism's commitment to becoming a multicultural faith remains unshaken. Our message of inclusion, compassion and justice transcends culture and language.

¡Adelante! *Peter Morales*

22 -- NEW BRUNSWICK DROPS APPEAL AGAINST ABORTION

The New Brunswick government decided in late August not to go to the Supreme Court of Canada in Ottawa in its long-running dispute with Dr. Henry Morgentaler. Dr. Morgentaler is suing because the province has refused to pay for abortions performed at the Morgentaler clinic in Fredericton.

New Brunswick is the only province that refuses to pay for abortions in private clinics. The government says that even though it won't pursue the matter on appeal, its position has not changed.

23 -- NEWS FROM HERE AND THERE**Talk about ecumenism -- one building for 18 denominations**

Trier, Germany (ENI) Eighteen Christian denominations in Hamburg have embarked on an endeavour unique in Germany -- to share a single church building in Hamburg's new "Harbour City" development. "It's intended to serve the inhabitants of the Harbour City development, as well as tourists and people who work here", Pastor Antje Heider-Rottwilm said in an interview.

New strain of anti-Semitism spreading, chief rabbi in Britain warns

London (ENI) The world is in the grip of a "virulent" new strain of anti-Semitism, says the Chief Rabbi of Orthodox Jews in Britain. Britain itself is facing an increasing number of anti-Semitic attacks, he added. Sir Jonathan Henry Sacks made these stark statements in a recently published book "Future Tense", a work that warns of the possibility of new waves of attacks on Jews because of their often perceived support for Zionism and the military activities of Israel.

'Religion beat' caught up in US journalism changes

Boston (ENI) News coverage of the religious landscape in the United States in recent years gained visibility because of increased interest in issues related to religion. But it now faces an uncertain future, given a state of flux in U.S. journalism, say prominent religion journalists. "The religion beat is suffering collateral damage," reporter Michael Paulson, who covers religion for *The Boston Globe*, told members of the Religion Communicators' Council, an interfaith professional association, at a meeting in Boston. During a panel discussion, Paulson along with Rachel Zoll, who covers religion for the Associated Press, and John Yemma, the editor of *The Christian Science Monitor*, told of frustrations and discouraging trends ranging from the reduction of staff to all-out elimination of sections devoted to religious reporting in U.S. newspapers.

(ENI - Ecumenical News International - offers religious news from Geneva in French & English)

The Fundy Wave hits the shore every month but July and August
DEADLINE FOR OCTOBER – MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

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