



#1 Sunday Services in March – Time 10:30 AM
March 7th Service Leaders; Doug Devine and Others

Theme **"CAUTION! A ROOM FULL OF SOUND FOR BODY AND SOUL"**

This service is for those who like to FEEL the sound and not just hear it. Instrumental and verbal selections have come mainly from the secular tradition for this celebration. In the era when protestant hymn writing was coming into its own (1700's) religious hymn writers stole numerous popular "street" melodies to attach to their "heavenly" words. In this post Christian Era, numerous "religious" folk find special inspiration in more recent secular music. And its not just in the melody. On March 7th the sound system will be tuned to a tee. We'll listen to some really "deep" words and then we'll let them seep into our bodies and our "souls" But there's a CAUTION, if music intended to be physically felt as well as heard is not your "cup of tea," please make other plans for March 7th!

March 14th Coordinator, Kathleen Speaker, Ellen Flemming
"The Way of Unknowing"
 Letting Go and how it informs our living

March 21st Coordinator, Connie Minister, Rev. Maury Landry
"The Original Avatar"

The title for the March 21st sermon is: "The Original Avatar". Recently on PBS, Alan Alda hosted a three part series on "The Human Spark", attempting to describe the "spark" which differentiated the human species from the Neanderthal and chimpanzees. This message will compare the scientific findings of the TV series with the American government's sanctioned definition of spirituality, and the philosophical and mystical traditions that also searched for a "spark". We will illustrate this spiritual quest by means of the original Avatar. MAURY

March 28th Coordinator, Doug Speaker, Bunty Albert, UUFPEI

" In Praise of Food" –

"We do not sit at the table only to eat, but to eat together" - Plutarch from *Moralia*
 The service will include several components, food sovereignty being one of them, some of them being participatory.
 People in attendance should think about a spiritual experience associated with food and I will call on some people to share those experiences.

Our service leader today is one of us, a Maritime UU. **Bunty Albert** has been a member of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Prince Edward Island since 1993. And like many Maritime UU's she has pretty well served in every UU position going . For years Bunty was

Chair of the West Bequest Trustees and she has long been one of the heavy motivators in the PEI Fellowship. Bunty says:

“I was born and raised in Edmundston, NB. I have a BA in Geography from Simon Fraser and an MA in Geography and Regional Planning from U of Ottawa. I've lived in PEI for 35 years and raised two kids here; my daughter is a UU dentist in Fredericton; my son is a specialist in international community health, who just finished 30 months in Liberia and will next be in Haiti building *The Mentor Initiative's* presence there (malaria prevention).

I was introduced to Unitarianism by a friend in 1991, and have been a member of UFPEI since 1993; over the years I have served as newsletter editor, president and most recently as secretary. I retired from the federal public service two years ago. I am an avid photographer, member of a community choir, and on the board of a local museum and historic site.”

We welcome Bunty today.

#2 MARCH 10 WORK LIST

<u>DATE</u>	<u>WELCOMER</u>	<u>REFRESHMENTS</u>
Mar 07	Jack C	Carol M & Nancy H
Mar 14	Phil J	Connie H & Andrea J
Mar 21	Joanne B	George L & Kathleen W
Mar 28	George A	Joan A & Susanna F
Apr 04	Fred W	Kaye S & Bob S

#3 Healthy Congregations - The Heart of the Matter

The heart of the congregation is ministry. The word "minister" comes from the Latin 'ministrare' meaning **to serve**. We are all ministers when we are part of a committed caring church community and we are able to love intentionally with an open heart, with respect and compassion. "Such a community lifts everyone involved to a higher nature." (Greenleaf from *Servant Leadership*)

The called minister may be referred to as *primus inter pares*, or first among equals. Who are the equals? Members, the board, committees, the staff and the minister are all equal and all are committed and strong. Ministry is for the openhearted, the gentle, the merciful, the forgiving, those who will not be driven off. It is not for the faint-hearted.

What do you think of the heart beat of our community? Is it healthy?

Read more about healthy congregation from *Churchworks* by Anne Odin Heller.

Kathleen

#4 Women at the Well

Women at the Well will meet on Monday March 8/10 (International Women's Day) from 6:00pm - 8:00pm. Potluck supper followed by discussion. Main course (vegetarian) to be supplied by Betty Tattersall.

Venue: home of

Joanne Britton

66 Queen Street Apt 102 Phone: 642 – 9880

#5

ROMERO HOUSE

As most of you know, UUCSJ has a commitment to provide volunteers from 9:00am to 1:00pm on the third Sunday of each month. Periodically, they ask us not to come as they have high school students who must get certain credits by doing community service. Such was the case for January and February of this year.

Well, on Jan 17 a crisis befell Romero House – **none of their students showed up!!!** The sole UU on site was Andrea J who goes every month to help open up at 8:00 am (**all the way from Hampton, bless her!!**) A multitude had to be served by only a handful of volunteers – a stressful situation indeed!

This month Romero House found out on Wednesday that its students weren't coming on the following Sunday. Agnes put in a distress call to the UUCSJ. Within less than 24 hours a dedicated crew of volunteers offered to work at Romero House on February 21st!! Three cheers for UUs, always there to lend a hand!!

We could use more volunteers for Romero House. If anyone would like to be put on the roster to volunteer every few months, please contact me.

Joanne Britton

Email: jmbritton100@rogers.com

Phone: 642 -9880

#6 **Pancake Day 2010**

About 45 people were served.

Thanks to everyone who helped out - especially Marcus and Gerry 'in the pit', and Andrea & Kathleen getting things set up, and Steve, Kristin and Lexie for serving, and to Doug for clean up. And a big thanks to everyone who brought in syrup, butter, eggs, berries, etc.

There was plenty of food for all, and the leftover sausages and eggs were taken to Romero House. The unused pancake mix and syrup are in the cupboard for next time! Fred

#7

Coffee House UUCSJ

Can you sing or play an instrument – do you THINK you can?

Do you have a piece of poetry, or as we used to say, a “recitation” you’d like to share?

Well, here’s your chance.

On Saturday evening, March 20th, we are going to attempt a “Coffee House” at the church. Since this the first time for us, it’s hard to say just how things will evolve, but Kaleb McNeil and I are co-organizing, and we’ll let you know more details as we get nearer the date.

The present plan is to have acoustic entertainment in the sanctuary, tables set with light munchies, soft drinks and of course, your favourite caffeine drinks!

So get that guitar, harmonica, kazoo or bagpipes out of storage and practice your chops. Here’s your chance to show who’s got talent.

PS Just kidding about the bagpipes!



!

Fred

#8 Youth Item

Judith and Randy Pollock drove two of our youth group members, Stephen McCavour and David Pollock, to the NNED Maine Winter Youth Con, which was held at the UU Society of Bangor on the weekend of February 5th – 7th. The theme of the con was “International Culture” and there were approximately 35-40 youth attending (a smaller turnout than last year). David and Stephen report having a great time reconnecting with the other youth from our region, and are looking forward to the spring con at Ferry Beach.

#9 Choir

When we get together, we not only sing but we have a good time. If you enjoy singing, come out and join us. There is always room for more.

Please jot down the following dates for **choir practice**:

7 PM..... February 27 at Wendy and Kevin’s

9.30 AM... March 14 at the church (before the service)

7 PM.....March 27 at Wendy and Kevin’s

#10

CAMPUS MINISTRY

The Campus Ministry of UNB Saint John is a group of volunteers who represent a number of faith communities: Muslim, Jewish, a variety of Christian denominations and a Unitarian Universalist (moi). We provide a presence at the university and are presently in the process of drafting a mission statement. We meet monthly; some of us maintain office hours where students, staff, or faculty can come to discuss anything that is on their mind. I have been on the Campus Ministry just over a year now, having been accepted in January 2009.

In March 2010 the Campus Ministry will be holding 2 events:

MARCH 16 – Meet-and-Greet (11:00am- 1:00pm)

Campus Ministry members will distribute pre-packaged snacks

And will introduce themselves

MARCH 24 – Display celebrating the following:

- **International Day for the Elimination of Racism** (actual date March 21):

This year’s theme: *Empowering Youth to Fight Racism*

- **World Water Day** (actual date March 22):

This year’s goal: *To raise the profile of water quality at the political level alongside that of water quantity.*

The Campus Ministry is currently working on a banner for its events and a “Sandwich Board” to make the office (Ward Chipman Library Building Room # 33) easier to find.

These two things, we hope will raise our profile on campus.

Peace, Joanne Britton

#11 Adult Owl

Adult Owl Sessions led by allison calvern and George DeMille will be held at the church on **March 10** and **March 24**.

#12 An Invitation from California

Greetings, this is Tom Wilson, a member of the UU Fellowship of North Bay in Napa, California. We are a small fellowship struggling to raise money to get out of rental space and into a home of our own. To do this we must depend upon the kindness of strangers, in this case, UU church newsletter editors.

One of our principal fund-raising efforts is Wine Country Excursions, where we invite UUs from around the country into our homes and give them personal tours of the Napa and Sonoma Valleys, aka "Wine Country." The success of this effort depends on letting Uus know it exists. Having no advertising budget, we have been sending, each spring, a news release describing our tours to, we hope, all UU newsletter editors. I hope you will indulge us again this year, since many people are not aware that this is an ongoing effort.

Thanks, Tom Wilson 2wilsons1dog@comcast.net

#13

SPRING ORIENTATION PROGRAMME

The Orientation Programme Committee will give a spring information session on Unitarian Universalism Saturday, April 10th from 8:45 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the church located at 545 Sandy Point Road.

Everyone is invited to join us for this day of interaction. We will present topics on the history of UUism and our congregation, the teachings and philosophy of UUism and an exposé on the board of directors, committees and groups. Lunch will be in the form of a potluck, the best way to share a meal!

This programme is designed for anyone interested in learning more about our denomination, for anyone interested in becoming a member of UUCSJ and for members of the congregation who wish to participate.

Looking forward to seeing you April 10th!

For more information, please contact Kathleen Webster at 632-8084

#14 Children's Religious Education

We welcome all children between the ages of 5 and 12 for an interactive programme based on our **UU principles**. The **dates** for this month are:

March 14 and **March 28**

Child minding will be available on the other two Sundays.

#15 Book study

If you should chance to happen by the church on a Monday night, you would find a group of enthusiastic UU's huddled together with a cup of coffee and a book. The book causing all the interest this time is "**A History of God**" by Karen Armstrong and there will be at least as many opinions floating about as there are folks sitting around the table. The meetings this month are at 7 PM on March 1 and March 15. If you don't have a book by now, there are probably copies at Indigo Chapters and you can always order on line. Amazon Canada listed their price at \$16.00 but Indigo lists it at \$21.00

#16 A SILENT FUNDRAISER

In an e-mail to the congregation President Fred indicated that financially we are doing fine. That does not mean we cannot use more money! To try out a different way to collect money, we came up with an idea of a silent auction. Silent, because we are respecting our sanctuary. Any of us who are part of the computer crowd might be interested in a scanner. At the back of the room we will display a scanner waiting for a new owner. Anyone interested can write their name and telephone number on a list and suggest an amount he or she is willing to part with to acquire this new and still lonesome gadget. (jvw)

#17 Contribution from Joost

New life in Spring

We have come this far after the winter months, and now we are anxiously waiting for Spring. Nature will not let us down. Even when we still have snow on the ground we know, under the snow, nature is already preparing for warmer days ahead. Most animals are waiting for new birth. Six deer in our backyard are still eating from the evergreens, but soon they have fresh green everywhere. And we are glad they have survived the winter. Even humans are waiting for new energy, new life and lots of colour in our backyards. The sun already emits warmth and we are being rejuvenated in the process. Perhaps having to go through winter makes us appreciate our glorious Spring more, but what is amazing is how people have changed. They seem happier, more friendly and not in a hurry and now, when they say, "have a nice day", it seems they mean it as well. Let's all watch for the Signs of Spring.

MARCH WIND

March wind is a jolly fellow
He likes to joke and play
He turns umbrellas inside out
And blows men's hats away.

He calls the pussy willow
And whispers in each ear
"Wake up you lazy little seeds,
don't you know that Spring is here?"

JvW

#18 ENI News Items

Debate on minarets moves from Switzerland to Germany

Trier, Germany (ENI). Reactions to an attempt by a small Muslim community in a German industrial town to build a minaret on its mosque have triggered a debate that some politicians and religious figures fear is sparking a rise in extremist rhetoric.

The debate follows a vote in a November 2009 national referendum in Switzerland not to allow the construction of any more minarets in that country, and also talk in neighbouring France of banning the burqa, an all-covering garb that some Muslim women wear.

The Muslim community in the town of Volkingen near Saarbrücken have applied for permission to build a minaret on top of their mosque on the banks of the Saar River.

Nepalese seek to correct error about Buddha's birthplace

Kathmandu (ENI). The largest party in Nepal wants the South-Asian republic's government to ask Newsweek magazine editor Fareed Zakaria, to correct "an error" in his book about the Buddha. The founder of Buddhism, a religion that ascribes to non-violence with more than 300 million followers worldwide, the Buddha was born in 523 BC as Prince Siddharth to a royal family in Lumbini, a city in southern Nepal, they said. However, since he attained enlightenment in India and died there, many people think the Buddha was Indian. "Zakaria's book, 'The Post-American World', sends out the wrong message that the Buddha was Indian," Dinanath Sharma, a member of parliament from the Unified Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist), told Ecumenical News International. "He was Nepali, which is borne out by the fact that UNESCO has included Lumbini in its list of world heritage sites.

Oregon may allow teachers to wear religious dress

Portland, Oregon (ENI/RNS). Oregon is poised to become the 48th U.S. state to permit teachers to wear headscarves and other religious dress in school, ending an 87-year ban that was originally meant to keep Roman Catholic nuns out of public schools. The 51-8 vote by the Oregon House of Representatives is the first decision towards repealing Oregon's ban on religious garb. If passed, Nebraska and Pennsylvania would be the only remaining states to prohibit religious clothing.

(ENI – Ecumenical News International offers religious news in French and English from Geneva)

#19 Ministerial Search Committee

Mark **May 1st** on your calendar. We are preparing a luncheon for you. Afterwards we will break into small groups so that we can hear your views and dreams for our Church and our Ministry. Look for details in the April Fundy Wave.

#20

“The March wind shall blow”

I sit this morning at the edge of the deck

The sun wisely avoiding me

The snow is leaving now

And I can hear the melting icicles

And smell a touch of earth

Wild clouds blow across the meadow

Down wind, the blue jays shriek

The occasional chickadee sits in the feeder

Coyote tracks suggest intrusion

Of a dangerous kind

There will be snow tomorrow

And then “what will the robins do?”

I will wait for them

But... I haven't seen a sparrow all winter

I haven't seen a single grosbeak either

I sit on the deck today

Wiser than I was last year

But I am sad too

Our wild birds are dying

Our bees are almost gone

Have we in our greed

Not cared enough?

I want to hear the songbirds sing

Let the March wind blow

Bring spring back

I can't take anything for granted

Ceridwen

#21 Youth for March:

Youth RE

Sunday March 7, 6:30 - 8 pm Continuing with 1st and 2nd Samuel

Sunday March 14 - no RE, OWL weekend in Fredericton

Sunday March 21 6:30 - 8pm Continuing with 1st and 2nd Samuel

Sunday March 28 6:30 - 8pm Finishing 1st and 2nd Samuel

Our Whole Lives

We had a great weekend in Halifax in February with 20 youth, 3 instructors and 2 Youth advisors. Halifax has an active Youth Group now and we are looking forward to working with them closely as we both develop and grow. We covered a decent amount of material from the program and are looking forward to continuing in Fredericton. We were sad to hear that their minister Julie Denny-Hughes will be leaving them. Besides being a great person, she has been a strong voice for youth in the Maritimes UU community and we will miss her.

Next O.W.L. weekend is in Fredericton, starting 7pm Friday March 12 to Sunday Morning March 14. Youth aged 12 - 18 are welcome, even if you haven't attended the first two weekends. It's a lot of fun and there will be youth from Halifax, Saint John and Fredericton attending. There is no fee but please let us know ahead of time if you are coming. Send an email to Steve at samcc@nbnet.nb.ca

Youth Group

Regular Meetings on Saturday March 20th and March 27th, 545 Sandy point road, 6:30 - ??

The Fundy Wave

hits the shore every month but July and August

Deadline for April – Monday March 22nd

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Saint John

545 Sandy Point Road, Saint John, New Brunswick E2K 3S1

PHONE (506) 650-7223

WEB- <http://www.uucsj.org> E-mail- community@uucsj.org

Editors – Tony & Caroline Smith (506) 832-4720 carton@xplornet.com

George Legris (506) 652-5141 geoleg@nbnet.nb.ca