



LAKESHORE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

5065 Sherbrooke Street,
Lachine, Qc. H8T 1H9
(514) 637-6974

MAY 2016

May 1st, 2016 - 10:30 a.m.

A GOD THAT COULD BE REAL
Susan Czarnocki

Nancy Ellen Abrams, author of this book, studies philosophy of science, but through the work of her husband, a cosmologist, she becomes fascinated with the advances in the charting the history of the Universe made possible through powerful radio telescopes. He and his colleagues worked on modeling what is now called the Double Dark Theory of the contents of the universe, a theory whose equations and assumptions keep being borne out by ongoing research.

At the same time, she was struggling with a “food addiction”. After years of frustration in trying to cure this addiction, she finds mastery through joining a 12-step program for non-alcohol addiction sufferers. She writes about how her husband’s newly found cosmological truths and her very personal struggle with an addiction came together to delineate a powerful phenomenon which she chooses to call God. I will attempt to lead us through her journey to see if we might agree with her that emergent qualities of the “stuff of the universe” are rightfully seen as “a god that could be real”.

Service Leader: Irene Hausknost
Musician: Kerry-Anne Kutz

Hospitality: Monique Riedel
Ron Lutes

ELECTORIAL MEETING immediately after the service to elect next year’s Board.

May 8th, 2016 – 10:30 am

**IN KENYA WITH SUITACASES
Wendy Buchanan**

Dr. Ebi Kiminani died almost eleven years ago. Since then, as a tribute to Ebi, Suitcases for Africa has been working in Kenya to improve the lives of orphans and vulnerable children in communities around and near Ebi's home town. Wendy will share the basic philosophy behind how SFA projects are chosen and the process that is used for evaluation of the project.

**Service Leader: Heather Falconer
Musician: Kerry-Anne Kutz**

Hospitality: Les Hommes

POT LUCK – Our men will treat us all to a lovely lunch!

May 15th, 2016 – 10:30 am.

**COMPASSION AND MILLENNIALS
Judy Nagy**

As a Lecturer at Concordia University's John Molson School of Business, I teach students about entrepreneurship and how to make their business dreams come to life. In turn, I learn about what inspires Millennials: more than money or job security, it is about compassion, empathy and changing the world. The regular 9 to 5 no longer exists, technology is at the forefront, and young people want to create a life with purpose and sustainable abundance. Millennials are our future leaders, let's understand their vision for a better world.

**Service Leader: Sari Kelen
Musician: Kerry-Anne Kutz**

**Hospitality: Jose van Amerongen
James Sisley**

Our Norwegians Landlords have a party today – we have use of the sanctuary only.

May 22nd, 2016 – 10:30 am.

**THE FIRST CONTACT
Scott MacLeod**

From the east, a small expedition of Norse Greenlanders looking for productive farmland. From the west, a proto-Beothuk hunting party. At the turn of the first millennium on the island now called Newfoundland, Aboriginal North Americans and Europeans chance upon each other for the first time. Their meeting goes smoothly at first, but turns hostile within the year due to misunderstood intentions.

Scott MacLeod's latest animated film, *First Contact*, tells a compelling story of this early encounter, and evokes the richness and potential of encountering the other.

**Service Leader: Paul Sullivan
Musician: Kerry-Anne Kutz**

**Hospitality: Chris Bassett
Nancy Schmidt**

May 29th, 2016 – 10:30 am.

**ENGINEERING SPIRITUALITY – THE
STRENGTH IN FLEXIBILITY
Tim Byrnes**

Tim Byrnes is a newcomer to our congregation – and he has kindly offered to give us a service on: A discussion of how the concept of flexibility used in engineering the world's greatest structures can be compared and applied to open minded spiritual development.

**Service Leader: TBA
Musician: Kerry-Anne Kutz**

**Hospitality: Selina Rooker-Sanchez
Peg Wooley**

We will hold a New Members' Welcoming Ceremony during the service today

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Late last night (21st April,) **Sheila Laursen** phoned me to say that she had received a letter from **Pat Bird**. Pat and her husband Tom Bird were long time members of LUUC – but they retired to their country house in the Eastern Townships at St. Etienne de Bolton, many years ago.

Pat wrote to Sheila - *“Tom died on August 8th, 2015, and he left the Church \$1,000.00 in his Will. Best wishes to all our friends at Lakeshore”* – Pat. The cheque was enclosed.

What a kind and generous gesture and so unexpected.

May will be a busy time at LUUC – as we have five Sundays in the month. In addition to a very varied program:

On May 1st – Electoral Meeting: The Nominating Committee, under the guidance of **Paul Sullivan** has worked long and hard and will present the nominations for next year's Board after the service. Do stay to vote. (see page 5)

May 6th – **Sheila Laursen** has organized a benefit concert for the Refugees to be held at our building at 7:30. **Rob Lutes, Kerry-Anne Kutz** and the **Lakeshore Community Choir** will all lend their talents to help make this event a success. (see page 7)

May 8th – Mothers' Day luncheon – **Ogden** has promised to activate the **Men's Brigade** and serve a meal for all the Mums after the service. After last year's gala lunch – we can hardly wait. Everyone welcome.

May 15th – The Norwegians are having a party on this Sunday – so we are requested to use the sanctuary only.

May 29th – We are planning to hold a **New Members'** welcoming ceremony during the service. When I started as President two years ago – the Board's aim was to increase membership by 25%. I'm pleased to tell you that we have now exceeded this goal.

Heather

LAKESHORE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION
NOTICE OF SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The voting members of the Lakeshore Unitarian Universalist Congregation are called to a special meeting, which will take place on Sunday, May 1st, 2016, immediately following the worship service.

The purpose of the meeting will be: **To elect the members of the Board of Lakeshore Unitarian Congregation to serve for a two year term.**

The Nominating Committee, composed of four members of the congregation, Paul Sullivan, James Sisley, Gary Spiller, and Christopher Thomson submitted the following names for election by the voting members of the congregation:

PresidentIrene Hausknost
Vice-President.....Paul Sullivan
Secretary.....Susan Czarnocki

Article VI, Section 3, of By Law #17, describes the eligibility of the Board of Directors as “Any member entitled to vote, subject to the provisions of Article IV, Section 2, and Article IX, Section 2, shall be eligible to serve as a Board member. No member may serve more than four years consecutively in the same office or more than six consecutive years on the Board of Directors. A member who has served for six consecutive years may not be nominated for a position on the Board until two years have elapsed. A member appointed to fill a vacancy for any office shall not be deemed to have served a term for the purpose of the preceding restriction.”

Please note that in accordance with By Law #17, Article IV, Section 2, “Only those members who have made a recorded financial contribution to the Congregation within the previous twelve months shall be entitled to vote at General Meetings of members. Furthermore, only those members of the legal age of eighteen and who have been members for at least six months shall be entitled to vote on motions concerning the appointment of a minister, revision to the By Laws, acquisition or sale of real property or assets of the congregation.”

All friends of LUUC are most welcome to attend this meeting.

**Peg Wooley,
Secretary, Board of Directors**

SYRIAN REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP UPDATE

We now have a confirmed match with a Syrian refugee family of 6, and our Summerlea Refugee Support Coalition committee was thrilled to meet recently with Salman, the husband's brother, who has lived in Montreal for 7 years. The husband, Bilal, and his wife Farah have 4 children, a daughter age 10, and 3 sons, ages 8, 4 and 2 years. They fled Syria and have been staying as visitors to another brother in Saudi Arabia. Salman had visited them recently, and so was able to show us photos and tell us about the family. As visitors, the husband is not able to work in Saudi Arabia, and the children are not allowed to attend school. Members of their family have been helping by sending some funds for their living expenses while there.

We have had wonderful guidance and support from Action Réfugiés Montréal, and thanks to their help, the paperwork required for the family has been completed so it can be sent to the Quebec government. Once approved by Quebec, the applications are sent on to the federal government...we have been warned that each step can take 4-6 weeks. Also, the family has to meet with Canadian embassy officials in Saudi Arabia, and later, will have to pass Canadian immigration health and security checks before final approval can be given for them to come to Montreal. Once approved, they will be issued Visas and will arrive as Permanent Residents of their new country of Canada!

It sounds very exciting to lay out all the steps, but in between, we need to have lots of patience for the delays between each step - and for the uncertainty we will have to accept until we finally hear if the family has been approved to come to Canada. Meanwhile, we will be meeting with Salman and the volunteers from each of our 3 churches that have offered to help the family once they arrive. There are many aspects to research beforehand - about housing, furnishings, language training, schools, employment, health and dental services....the list goes on and on and of course, there are funds to raise.

If you are interesting in helping out in any way, or if you wish to contribute to our refugee sponsorship fund, please contact **Sheila Laursen** by phone at 514 697-4195 or by email at sheila.laursen@bell.net

- Sheila Laursen

CONCERT

This is an exciting event on May 6 at LUUC - it features our "own" LUUC musicians and the Lakeshore Community Choir. We are very grateful to **Rob Lutes, Kerry-Anne Kutz** and the **choir members** for helping to raise funds for our refugee family in this way.

Featuring:

Rob Lutes

Kerry-Anne Kutz

Lakeshore Community Choir

Friday May 6 , 7:30pm

5065 Sherbrooke

Lachine, QC

Refreshments will be served

S u g g e s t e d D o n a t i o n : \$20

All donations go to funding to support
settlement of a Syrian Refugee Family.

Further information: 514-637-6974

SONG WRITING WORKSHOP

Beginning in February of this year, I began hosting song-writing workshops at the church on Saturday afternoons from 4:30 to 6 p.m. I have hosted two so far, and the experience for all involved has, I believe, been really quite wonderful. We had nine writers at the first workshop, and eight at the second. We have had guitarists, pianists, a man who plays the "stick" and some who don't play anything, but just come to write poems or lyrics.

My intention with these gatherings is not to provide instruction but rather to inspire songwriters -- and writers in general -- to write. My focus has been on what I consider the most powerful ally I have as a songwriter, the idea that creativity flourishes within constraints. I speak to the group for 15 to 20 minutes at the beginning of each session, outlining one of my experiences as a songwriter, or offering some tips or examples that might come in handy when writing a song.

Then, we all, individually, write a song. To help this process, I provide two constraints.

One is around the subject of the song. Through objects or bits of text or other means, I give each writer something to write about -- or at least something that must feature in the new song they write.

The second constraint I give is time. We each have 30 minutes to write the song.

It does not have to be complete. It can be fragments of ideas, or sometimes, people write a complete work.

When the 30 minutes are up, we reconvene and play our creations for the group.

The results thus far have been quite inspiring. During the most recent workshop, a man who had played music for 30 years but never written a song, managed to write a very moving one about his mother.

- Ron Lutes

BIRTHDAYS AND CARING

For those of you born in May:

Lucky Colors: Copper and Gold

Lucky Numbers: 1, 10, 19, 28, 37, 46, 55, 64, 73 and 82.

Lucky Days (of the week): Sunday, Monday and Thursday

Lucky Days (of the month): 5th, 14th and 23rd

Happy Birthday to **Chris Bassett** on May 6th. Chris is a long time member of LUUC. She comes to church as often as she can – but as she lives in Rosemere – she has quite a journey in. **Gabriel** who helps out in the SE usually accompanies her. Enjoy your day Chris!

May 7th is **Conny Belanger's** special day. Conny is a 'quasi' member of LUUC. Ask her to help out at bazaars or be part of the Caring Committee etc. – and she's right there – and we are so grateful for that. Have a Happy Birthday Conny.

Happy Birthday to **Kathy Matyas** on May 18th. We're sure that Gabor and your two lovely daughters will be on hand to help you celebrate and make your day special.

Rev. Dr. Heather Fraser-Fawcett was pleased when she won our April Raffle – (an extra little 'thank you' for giving us the service that day?) Next Raffle will be on Mother's Day – May 8th!

Congratulations to our Norwegians Friends: May 17th is the National Constitution Day for Norway when they celebrate the signing of the Norwegian Constitution in Eidsvoll, May 17, 1814. The celebration of the National Day is a party like no other in Norway with Marching bands, parades, traditional costumes and ice cream. A lot of ice cream.

Don't let worry get the best of you – get the best of worry. Use it as a springboard to take needed action, improve your outlook and get your life in balance.

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

On April 13th I joined Gary Spiller and others in a protest in front the Dorval Municipal Golf Course to protest the cutting down of 1000 trees so that Air Transat can have a parking lot for their planes. The residents of Thorncrest who live right beside the golf course stand to lose the natural buffer of the trees improving air quality and reducing noise, at the same time provide a pleasant view. Already house values of the street have gone down \$75,000. As a city, Montreal has only 6% green space. (In comparison, Atlanta's airport is much smaller and has much more air traffic.) For air quality alone, our island needs the hundred-year-old trees, and so do the birds and small animals that live in the space.

Social Action Committee: During the month of March we collected linens, non-perishable food and hygiene products for the Native Women's shelter of Montreal. The people who received the items on behalf of the women were very pleased and grateful for our generosity.

A letter was prepared for individuals to send to Mayor Coderre about building a memorial park by the Victoria Bridge. The park would be for the Irish immigrants who died of typhus, and the Montrealers, including the mayor at the time, who died as a result of trying to help them. Orphaned children were adopted by Montrealers and the children were able to keep their Irish names, adding to the multicultural fabric of our city and country. To have such a park would be well timed for Montreal's 350th anniversary and Canada's 150th anniversary, and the location would be ideal for the city.

- Sari Kelen, SAC Chair

STOP THE PRESS! - GARY GOES TO OTTAWA

Gary wrote in haste – “I just returned from Ottawa where Minister McKenna and Justin Trudeau were given an information sheet and asked to intervene to save the Dorval Green Space. I am drafting a National press release to compare Montreal and Victoria airport development projects. We will start a new petition to the Minister next week if there is no decision this week.”

– Gary Spiller

S.E. NEWS

Throughout the month of April the Wind Chimes and Yearn to Learn groups have been exploring social justice. We have explored how to influence the self, family and close friends, acquaintances, teachers and classmates, and the community at large. We have come to the conclusion that in order to be involved in social justice issues we must first determine our own values and beliefs. In order to do so, both groups have collaborated to create a list of social justice issues that they believe to be important.

From this list we will be choosing one cause and we will determine the best way to support that cause for the remainder of the year. I am encouraging parents to fill out the doodle poll so we can begin planning it! If you have not received to link for the doodle poll please email me and let me know! (erin.berry@mail.mcgill.ca)

Erin Berry, SE Cordinator

Mary says.....

I really enjoyed Fred's service about Joy and the Moral Choice. Fred wore his Nehru suit. He talked about marriage to the children. The trio sang a beautiful song. The choir sang Dona Nobis Pacem, as they marched up to the front. Fred spoke about life on the farm when he worked in a hospital. Garbage bags full of clothes were given to him for the children. The littlest ones scampered to keep up when they hurried down the lane to catch the school bus! The cows were milked by hand every day. My, it's amazing how Bonnie and Fred do keep up!

I, thanks to physiotherapy, am now able to type with two hands!

- Mary

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Seek out optimistic people. Naysayers bring nothing but worry. Positive and hopeful people bring balm to a troubled soul.

WANTED - AN ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY

**The Board is looking for an office secretary - to work for approximately 5 hours a week. Flexible hours – and varied work – a one-person office – all to be discussed. Please contact me if you are interested or know of a suitable person at:-
heather.falconer@videotron.ca**

HELPING CHILDREN IN KENYA THROUGH SUITCASES FOR AFRICA

When Wendy Buchanan returned from her recent trip to Kenya, she brought with her notes for each of our LUUC children from Elizabeth, one of the Kenyan children whose educational costs are covered by the generous donations of members of LUUC, including Nancy Graham's dedicated collection and return of bottles and cans.

Sheila Laursen also received a letter from Elizabeth and it is shared here:

Dear Sheila,

Hi. I hope you are fine with your all family. I really wish you a happy year and time. I thank you for your picture. I have seen parents and their children singing, with a lot of joy. Even I with my family did so. I am really struggling to work hard to achieve my goals. God will shower me with a lot of wisdom and knowledge. I will be joining Form 3 next year (her next school level). May God help and guide you there in Canada so that you may keep on helping and sponsoring me. I know one day you will come to Kenya. Thank you for helping me.
From your daughter,

Elizabeth Khayanje Form 2

SUPPORTING THE IRISH MONUMENT PARK FOUNDATION

There was a small but haunting exhibit at the Centaur Theatre recently, that several of us were pleased to see. The Montreal Gazette wrote a great article in a recent edition. **Fergus Keyes**, who spoke to us last February, would like us to suggest venues for this exhibit - (i.e. local libraries etc) – to spread the word - so his dream of an Irish Monument Memorial Park becomes a reality. **- ed**

CUC ANNUAL MEETING AND CONFERENCE

Conference 2016 will focus on better connections among UUs, greater public awareness, and deepening spirituality—**on Bolder Ways of Being—Être et vivre avec plus d'audace**. Over the weekend of May 20–22, Unitarians will explore sharing, the risk (and rewards) of telling our stories, and connections. Registration is now open - conference@cuc.ca The conference is being held on the campus of the University of British Columbia. These conferences are the best way to get a sense what it means to belong to a denomination with deep roots across Canada. **Susan Czarnocki** plans to attend this conference in Vancouver. Anyone else?

THE LAKESHORE PLAYERS DORVAL presents – THE CURIOUS SAVAGE

May 1 at 2:00pm; **May 5-6** at 8:00pm; **May 7** at 2 & 8:00pm
At: 501 Blvd. St. Jean, Pointe Claire – contact 514-631-8718
Cost: \$18.00 – \$28.00 or Seniors: \$24.00

Synopsis: Ethel Savage's step-children want the money she's inherited from her late husband. She has other ideas, wanting only to help others, so they have her committed to a sanatorium. Is it the residents who have lost touch with reality or those on the outside? **-ed**

OUR PAPER PRODUCTS

Why not win your Toilet Paper? Everyone supporting the Paper Products Fundraiser from January 16th until Mother's Day on May 8th will get a chance to win a case. If you buy either a case of TP or PT you'll receive 10 raffle tickets toward winning a free case of TP; buy ½ a case and receive 3 raffle tickets or buy one pack and receive 1 raffle ticket. When your supplies run low – contact Susan – susan.czarnocki@mcgill.ca

THE BATTLE OF VIMY RIDGE

An announcement from the Department of Veterans Affairs:

Ottawa – This year, for the first time, April 9th is a National Day of Remembrance marking the anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge. The Battle of Vimy Ridge took place in 1917 and was the first time all four divisions of the Canadian Corps went into battle together. A wreath laying ceremony marked the day at the Canadian National Vimy Memorial in France today.

At Vimy Ridge, the Canadians did what other allied forces could not, they took Vimy Ridge. The Canadian success earned Canada a separate signature on the Versailles Peace treaty.

This anniversary has always had great significance, but it is only with the recent passage of Bill C-227, introduced by Brent St. Denis, M.P. for Algoma-Manitoulin, that April 9th has become a National Day of Remembrance. Our challenge is to keep alive the memory of what happened on that ridge and the memory of those who were there, risking their lives and making the ultimate sacrifice for our nation. "The Canadian victory at Vimy Ridge carried a heavy cost. Canada suffered more than 10,000 casualties, of which 3,598 were fatal.

THE DAFFODILS

I wandered lonely as a cloud
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,
When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host, of golden daffodils;
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze

This poem by William Wordsworth is one of my favourite. I well remember seeing such brilliant sights at our summer home in Oxfordshire on the River Thames. Long ago, my Mother had planted 200 daffodil bulbs and over the years they multiplied many times – until every spring - the dell was filled with a sea of fluttering yellow – truly 'a host of golden daffodils.'

That would be a very rare sight indeed in Quebec – but Ste. Anne's tries hard. Instead of yellow, our lawns are covered in a thick carpet of heavenly blue, thanks to the millions of scillas that pop their dainty heads up at this time of year.

Ste. Anne's offers even more:

A town-wide garage sale on Saturday May 7th

Ste. Anne's Market will soon be outdoors by the River again with its wide variety of fresh goods.

Look out for the Wednesday evening musical shows on the boardwalk – not to be missed.

There's a new Monte Carlo Café – adjacent to the outdoor market. Give it a try.

Nova Shops with their unforgettable prices. Books are \$1.00 each – and greeting cards are 50c. - and don't forget Bargain Alley where most of the goods are a mere quarter.

Or how about a walk in the Arboretum to observe the migrating birds? It's all here in beautiful Ste. Anne. **- ed**

LAKESHORE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

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Our web-site: www.LUUC.org

APRIL SHOWERS BRING FORTH MAY FLOWERS