



**LAKESHORE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION**  
 5065 Sherbrooke Street,  
 Lachine, QC H8T 1H9  
 (514) 637-6974

## **DECEMBER 2016**

**DECEMBER 4<sup>th</sup> - 10:30 am.**

**COURAGE AND FOOLHARDINESS**  
**Rev. Fred Cappuccino**

One of our Ministers Emeriti, Fred Cappuccino, will regale us on “Courage and Foolhardiness.” “There is a difference,” says Fred, “Bonnie does one and I do the other.”

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

**Hospitality: Sara and Bob McDonald**

**Do stay for our MINI-BAZAAR and stock up on your Christmas Baking**

**DECEMBER 11<sup>th</sup> – 10:30 am.**

**CHRISTIANITY IN THE BUDDHIST WORLD OF  
S. E. ASIA**

**Michael Rooker**

The inspiration for my service presentation today is a story that started 30 years ago while working in S.E. Asia. The story concerns Christians and Buddhists living together in harmony in the region. This premise enables me to compare these two great religions at roof level. I'll make the comparison (Christianity and Buddhism) under three main headings:

- Historical roots (leading to S.E. Asia);
- Spiritual comparison (NB. Personal God vs. Self-help); and
- A modern comparison (Internationally).

I started out noting fundamental differences of philosophy but ended up finding vital common ground on how mankind (from any walk of life) might re-evaluate their daily ways (today) and find happiness and fulfilment. Here's something from within us that can stand against the frightening tide of darkness that threatens society around the world today.

**Service Leader: Gary Spiller**  
**Musician: Kerry-Anne Kutz**

**Hospitality: Peg Wooley**  
**Samantha Lustig**

**DECEMBER 18<sup>th</sup> – 10:30 am.**

**THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS**

The youth and children will be presenting the LUUC Service today. As a group, they will take the congregation through a service full of words and songs that will celebrate Winter and the Spirit of the Holidays. As part of the service the children and youth will be performing a skit that is entirely original - written and created by them! In recognition of the giving nature of the season, the play will centre around selflessness, as one stranger's act of kindness helps another. Each scene will lead us on a journey through the lives of multiple strangers as their acts of kindness are passed forward in a "pay it forward" kind of way.

**Service Leader: Erin Berry**  
**Musician: Kerry-Anne Kutz**

**Hospitality: Jose Van Amerongen**  
**James Sisley**

**POT LUCK LUNCH after the service**

**Pot Luck Team: Sari Kelen, Philip Prince, Nancy Schmidt and Huntly McNiven.**

**DECEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup> – 5:00 pm**

**CHRISTMAS EVE MUSICAL SERVICE**  
**Kerry-Anne Kutz**

The musical talents of the Congregation, including some Choir members, will be solicited in this innovative service with songs and stories reflecting the Christmas tradition.

### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

November is already behind us, just about... Some of the highlights at LUUC were the successful Coffee House hosted by Kerry-Anne and her students. Proceeds from the concert (around \$900) were split between Suitcases for Africa and LUUC. And Jose celebrated a milestone birthday - eight decades! - with flair by throwing a party for her family and friends. It was a grand evening with lots of music and laughter. Three cheers for Jose!

I'm looking out my window as I write this message admiring the beautiful white blanket of fresh snow on the ground... I am reminded that we are entering a very busy period at LUUC. It's time to think about the holidays; the shopping, the baking, the decorating, the parties. It's all a lot of fun, but also a lot of hustle and bustle... But while we are going about our holiday business with our endless to-do lists, let us remember to purchase an extra non-perishable item or two (not pasta!!) for our Christmas Basket as well as a pair of mittens, hat or a scarf - if you are not a knitter - for our Mitten Tree. These are small gestures, but they may make a big difference in the lives of many families in our neighbourhood.

And while you are in the shopping mood, the Caring Committee is organizing a Mini-Bazaar on December 4, following the service - with Fred Cappuccino as our speaker. It is a wonderful opportunity to pick up some cookies or a loaf; the perfect treat for when that unexpected guest arrives for tea...

Please be careful on those slippery sidewalks, everyone! And I hope you all enjoy a very merry holiday season...!

*- Irene*

**MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ONE AND ALL – AND A HAPPY  
NEW YEAR**

## OUR LUUC CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS

### MINI-BAZAAR

The Ladies of our Congregation are planning a **mini-BAZAAR** on **December 4<sup>th</sup>** after the Sunday Service. During coffee hour – do browse our baking table and stock up on your Christmas baking. We will tempt you with cakes, muffins, cookies, shortbread, squares, frozen soup, loaves, nuts and preserves.

**-ed**

### CHRISTMAS CAKE

I asked **Sheila Laursen** how long she had been making Christmas fruitcakes for LUUC – and here is her reply:

Hi Heather - Your question about my fruitcake baking sent me into my cookbook "log" of annual lists. It seems the first time I made a large quantity of fruitcake was in 1980! And you were one of the first year's customers! So you are my most "stalwart" customer - **Nancy Graham** is next, beginning in 1982, and **Barbara Jackson** since 1984. I am grateful that all of you continue to enjoy this annual Christmas treat!

I looked through all the lists and it brought back memories of so many LUUCers now gone - from **Mr & Mrs Dunphy**, to **Bill Rue, Irene Mahady**, the **Crossmans, Alda Currie**, and so many more. Thanks for initiating that little bit of nostalgic "research"! Here are some other 'fun facts'...In the 1980s, I would make it with **Ovilla Pattee** in my kitchen (with our combined 6 daughters playing throughout the house). I would focus on the fruitcake, and Ovilla would make Christmas pudding. What fun that was!

In 1980, I made 53 lbs of fruitcake, and by 1984, that had increased to 72 lbs. I make about the same amount now - this year, I have orders for 75 lbs. Prices of ingredients have sky-rocketed since those early days of course. Chopping sticky fruit, dates and figs is the worst part of the job, but that becomes an enjoyable morning with the help of others. This year, **Conny, Margot and Kerry-Anne** will be getting sticky with me.

**- Sheila**

**- continued/**

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### MITTEN TREE

Also we will be filling a "Mitten Tree" with warm clothing such as scarves and mittens - these will be donated to help children in the West Island keep warm during the winter. Collections will be made on Sunday mornings throughout the month of December.

- *Peg Wooley*

### CHRISTMAS BASKET

The Caring Committee is requesting that members support our efforts to fill a Christmas basket, which will be donated to a needy family in the local community. We are working with Meadow Brook Elementary School (located right beside us) and as soon as we confirm a family, we will supply details of their requirements. Food and household supplies are always needed, as is money. We will be collecting each Sunday until December 18th. Last year we sent the basket to the Woman's Shelter.

- *Peg Wooley*

\* \* \* \* \*

### SCARF-KNITTING GROUP

The Knitting Group is very busy making scarves for our Choir to wear at their winter concerts - these are easy to make and all knitters who can help are most welcome. We will supply the wool and pattern. Please speak to **Peg Wooley** if you are interesting in helping out. Wherever the knitters meet, the place is a sea of red wool, as scarves were being produced at an alarming rate. **Dori Abbott**, our most experienced knitter, chose a very nice pattern for us to work – and I think the Choir will be well pleased with the results. **Jose van Amerongen** has been trying to convert one of **Dora McNiven's** narrow strips of knitting into a colourful hat – we all say – good luck with that! Meanwhile others are crocheting the larger strips together for blankets.

- *ed*

**COME TO OUR MINI-BAZAAR – STOCK UP ON CHRISTMAS BAKING**

### S. E.

The Thunderbirds have been learning about Fall and the various things that happen during the Fall. They've drawn pictures, read stories, decorated pumpkins and planted bulbs! For the month of December, the Thunderbirds will be learning about winter and the month of December.

The *Wind Chimes* have been brainstorming ideas for the service that they will be presenting on December 18<sup>th</sup>. They have also been giving their input over the last month to help improve our SE program and ensure that the group is interested and engaged in what they are learning. For Halloween they carved and decorated pumpkins. Other discussions centred around knowledge and the importance of it. For the month of December, the Wind Chimes will be discussing the importance of co-operation and teamwork while also doing fun team-building activities. They will also be working further towards the creation of the service on December 18<sup>th</sup>.

The *Yearn to Learn* group have also been brainstorming ideas for the service on December 18<sup>th</sup> and giving their input in order to play a part in the development of an SE program that best fits their needs. For Halloween they also carved and decorated pumpkins. They have discussed knowledge as well, along the Schrodingers cat story. The Yearn to Learn group will continue to discuss knowledge and power as it ties into the Canadian and American political system. They will be looking into the positive outcomes of the American election and Trump becoming president, as well as looking at Trudeau and what he is doing for Canada.

**- Erin Berry**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ONE AND ALL - AND HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**

## **SCIENCE DIPLOMACY IN THE 4<sup>TH</sup> INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION**

What a pleasure for us all when **Lissa Matyas** led the service on October 30<sup>th</sup>. Once a member of our children's school, Lissa took the opportunity during story-time, to say that not enough girls take science at the university level – and she encouraged our teenage girls to consider becoming scientists.

We heard from Lissa that Canadian Universities are among the best funded in the world, but that several universities are researching the same subject. Instead of this duplication, it is smart to share information.

Lissa's job involves linking these universities, who generate the ideas, with businesses who provide the marketing know-how and the Government who supply the money for research and connect them with a university in another country – usually 3<sup>rd</sup> world or an emerging country. This creates a lot of good will and student exchanges between each country.

For Lissa this necessitates lots of travel. She recently visited Tunisia where she spoke to 600 engineering students, half of whom were female. Sadly, they were very dispirited as there are few jobs in their own country and they are aware that Muslims are unpopular in the West. Lissa encouraged them by telling them that Canada is a welcoming country with many opportunities. It is hoped that after working here, the students will return to their own countries taking their new skills with them – thus helping to improve the lives of their own citizens. It is a non-profit bridge-building initiative to foster good relations between Canada and other countries.

Lissa spoke to us without notes. She's a compelling speaker, fluent and with a charming and enthusiastic manner. She also smiles a lot. As she travels from country to country – what a fabulous ambassador she is for Canada. There were numerous questions after her talk and many of us could have listened for longer.

She said she felt honoured to be talking to us – and we were thrilled to have her as our guest speaker. If young people like Lissa are emerging as leaders of our country – then Canada is in good hands in the future.

**- ed**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ONE AND ALL - AND HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**

## HALLOWEEN

There was a big buzz in the lobby on October 30<sup>th</sup> as the place was full of excited little Halloweeners.

**Samuel** was dressed as a teenage mutant ninja turtle and wore a most fearsome mask - Little **Luna** was a Super Heroine and she 'flew' all over the altar area when she came up for the children's story - **Henry** was a naughty ninja - We had two beautiful princesses, **Emalyn** in her lovely blue gown was a graceful and gentle princess and **Alba** with her flowing hair and flowing red robe was a charming princess with a definite regal presence. Our teenagers got into the act too: **Talia** was Dracula complete with blood! - The slender and svelte **Olivia** was an elegant black cat - And **Bella** came as a convincing slick biker chick – (she needed all her acting skills to pull that one off!)

- *ed*

## GRANNY POWER

**From Sheila Laursen:** The Pointe Claire Library has agreed to show "**Granny Power**" - the documentary on the Raging Grannies movement! It will be screened on **Tuesday November 29 at 1:30 p.m.** as part of its Film Series. Jocelyne Clarke, (Magnus's widow, and producer of the film) will be there with DVDs to sell – as will about 3 or 4 of Montreal's Raging Grannies gaggle.

I am hoping that we can have a room full of people there, and so am asking for your help to spread the word - and to come yourselves! We may even have time to sing a couple of Granny songs, so please let me know if you can be there to enjoy this.

- *Sheila*

**COME TO OUR MINI-BAZAAR – STOCK UP ON CHRISTMAS BAKING**

### **TRiUMPhant TRUMP BEATS WOMAN**

Instead of taking a handful of valium after the surprising election results – Keep Calm and read a smoothing poem.

#### **COMFORT**

When despair for the world grows in me  
and I wake in the night at the least sound  
in fear of what my life and my children's lives may be,  
I go and lie down where the wood drake  
rests in his beauty on the water, and the great heron feeds.  
I come into the peace of wild things  
who do not tax their lives with forethought  
of grief. I come into the presence of still water.  
And I feel above me the day-blind stars  
waiting with their light. For a time  
I rest in the grace of the world, and am free

**Wendell Berry**

- Submitted by *Dori Abbott*

#### **SUSAN B. ANTHONY**

Susan B. Anthony, 1820-1906, *Unitarian*, abolitionist and tireless suffragette died long before women were allowed to vote in the US. She was buried at Rochester, NY. However, since 1920 when the right to vote was at last granted, women have put their 'I voted' stickers on her grave. On November 8<sup>th</sup> this year, when it was expected that a woman could possibly become President, women flocked to place their stickers on Susan's tombstone and the graveyard was kept open late in the evening to accommodate the rush.

- ed

Come to our **MINI-BAZAAR** and stock up on your Christmas Baking



**Nancy Graham** has long been a member of LUUC – and her birthday is on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. Happy Birthday Nancy – and many more!

We wish a happy Birthday to **Hélène Cimon-Auer** on December 6<sup>th</sup>. Hélène's wrist has healed sufficiently for her to play the piano again. I look forward to hearing her play *Arabesque* once more. Enjoy your day Hélène.

It's **Sari Kelen's** birthday on December 9<sup>th</sup>- and we all wish her a Happy Birthday. Sari is one of our hardworking Board members – always smiling and cheerful – Happy Days Sari!

What a happy day for LUUC when **Vanessa Soldano** joined our children's program as a teacher. Happy Birthday on the 16<sup>th</sup> Vanessa – and have a wonderful day.

It's **Irene Hausknost's** birthday on December 18<sup>th</sup>. Happy Birthday Madam President – and thank you for taking on the onerous task of leading our Congregation.

A Happy Birthday on December 22<sup>nd</sup> to **Annelise Ogle**, who dressed up as a fearsome pirate at Halloween. We all had to use our imaginations, as the curly headed blond Annalise with the charming smile is anything but fearsome. Happy Birthday Annelise!

It's also dear **Talia Sanchez-Rooker's** birthday on December 22<sup>nd</sup>. Have a wonderful day – and enjoy your Christmas holiday too. Happy Birthday Talia.

- ed

### **WHY JOIN THIS CHURCH? – A NOTE FROM THE PAST**

We have to admit from the start that we have no plums to offer, such as guaranteed salvation for accepting the “Party Line”. We cannot ease anyone’s sense of moral responsibility by accepting his professed beliefs in our church’s dogmas – we have no dogmas. We offer, however a positive religion suited for an evolving world of growing individual intelligence.

Our church offers its members inspiration and intellectual stimulation. It welcomes original thinking, and provides an opportunity to exchange ideas. It prefers honest heresy to timid conformity. It offers a faith of courage, not of fear.

Our church school teaches our children about Christianity and other world religions without using fear or superstition as part of the training. It tries to give children a sound ethical and moral outlook on life, not by indoctrination, but by encouraging them to think for themselves.

Our church is governed by its members. They decide and vote on policy and are the ones who determine what this independent congregation shall do and be. Anyone joining our church participates in this democratic process.

We need members. We need members who will contribute to the variety and richness of our church life. We need members who will think for themselves, and then stand up and be counted for what they believe in. Never have intelligence, courage and good common sense been needed as they are needed today, in this community, the nation and the world.

*Ted Elidorios,  
Chairman Membership Committee*

**NB:** This was printed in our Newsletter dated **February 15<sup>th</sup> 1960**. It is as appropriate today as it was 56 years ago. At that time, the newsletter was a single sheet of foolscap with both sides printed - produced on a hand inked and hand cranked Gestetner machine – which I remember well as being both noisy and messy! Colour printing in an office setting was unknown then – and an e-mailed newsletter was a thing of Sci-Fi future.

– ed

### ELUCIDATION ON THE APOSTROPHE IN “IT’S”

When I was young and impetuous  
I was influenced and affected, thus:  
Apostrophes of possession, thrust  
To ascertain where they must be pusst (put)

It’s necessary to never put  
An apostrophe in “its”  
When followed by what it *possesses*.  
Hence: “The dog chased its tail to no avail!”

For this dreadful word, “its”, acts in opposition  
To what we first have held in supposition:  
To, without fail, place an apostrophe  
Between the noun and the possessive “s”:  
“The dog’s tail was so badly chewed  
**Its** tail needed medical attention.  
It’s a tale that I made up  
For creative elucidation!”

Never more are one’s quandaries fraught  
As one’s use of apostrophes (no apostrophe here as it’s plural)  
Is well taught.

- *by the aging and still impetuous Sari Kelen*

### A GIFT OF LIGHT – NEW REFLECTIONS ON AN OLD STORY

Come to an exciting and thought-provoking event, inspired by the Nativity and experience this old and familiar story in a new way: includes 18 voice choir, soloists, diverse selection of music and images, an ensemble of 7 instruments.

**Sat. Dec, 17<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 pm and Sunday Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm.**

Union United Church, 24 Maple Avenue, Ste. Anne de Bellevue. Tickets \$25.00  
Contact for information: Jan Langelier: 514-453-7103

## REMEMBRANCE

Our November Remembrance Day service was quite different from the usual. We were shown a film about *Hannelore Scheiber* – who was born at the very end of the WW2 in Berlin. In her childhood she experienced the Cold War, the food shortages, the Berlin Airlift, the building of the Berlin Wall – and the eventual dismantling of it - as Germany struggled to get back to normal. Hannelore attended our service - a cheerful, personable and attractive woman – who was happy to answer our many questions. It was a different and interesting perspective on WW2.

I was pleased that **Michael Cartile** was on hand to play the **Last Post**. For me it's always a sombre two minutes, when we can think of the sacrifice that our own Canadian soldiers and the allies contributed to WW2. Thank you, thank you Michael.

- ed

## MUSIC

Our musician, **Kerry-Anne Kutz**, has a special knack in choosing appropriate music each Sunday. I was thrilled to hear "*Vincent*" by Don MacLean a couple of Sundays ago – one of my favourite ballads - and so seldom heard these days. Kerry-Anne sang the WW2 song, "*Lili Marlene*" at the Remembrance service. It's a lovely tune, which somehow captures the feeling of that awful time. "*Underneath the lantern by the barrack gate*" – it sounds so dreary and dull. I imagined a gloomy street lit by gas light on a chilly evening, with a pretty girl in shabby clothes and a scarf tied around her head - waiting for a glimpse of her soldier. He needing her as a memory to hold on to when he goes into battle, and she not knowing if he will ever return to her. Such was the story of many lovers in that war.

- ed

## KERRY-ANNE'S DISNEY CONCERT

In late October, LUUC and Suitcases for Africa held a concert featuring **Kerry-Anne Kutz's** students singing Disney music. The concert was well attended - and our share of the gate was **\$447.50**. Well done!

- ed

### THE SUMMERLEA REFUGEE SUPPORT COALITION

The Refugee support group held an information luncheon at the Summerlea United church, where delicious homemade soup and bread was served. **Sheila Laursen** chaired the meeting and together with Salman - the brother of the family they are sponsoring - informed us of the progress so far. Salman also told us of the many difficulties that the refugees encounter. The support group is ready to swing into action as soon as it gets the green light – but for the time being, things are bogged down with red tape. Below is Salman's recipe for lentil soup:

- ed

1-2 cups of red lentils  
 1 onion  
 1-2 lute of salari – (roots of celery)  
 1 piece of carrots – (whole carrot)  
 salt and 1 tsp cumin, a couple of shakes of pepper and chillies to taste  
 1-2 litres of water over the fire and add a pinch of salt. Then add the carrots and salari. After 15 minutes add the lentils and simmer on low heat for an hour.

### THE BIG CLEAN-UP

A great big thanks go out to **Jose Van, James Sisley, John Schmidt,** and **Susan Czarnocki** for helping out last Saturday November 5th with the fall cleanup around the church building. The participation and interest in the care of the property by the Unitarians is much appreciated by the Norwegians.

- *Paul Sullivan, Property Chair*

### MYSTERY DISAPPEARANCES

Our grey Order of Service folders have been disappearing – and we shall have to order a new batch. A similar fate has overtaken our hymn books – and when we have a good attendance on Sundays, we run short. If you have either of these items hiding in your home – kindly bring them to LUUC the next time you come. Many thanks.

- ed

**MERRY CHRISTMAS – TO YOU ALL**

### **MONEY, MONEY, MONEY - FINANCIAL SITUATION AND TAX RECEIPTS**

At the end of October, we were half-way through our May-April financial year and had raised 56% of our budgeted income and spent 41 % of our budgeted expenses. Don't break out the champagne yet as July and August expenses are low compared to other months so expenses will rise during the last half of the year while income declines as Choir and Little Maestros payments fall almost entirely in September and October. Thinking of your own personal finances, remember to put your Sunday Plate contributions in an envelope with your name on it and it will be totalled for the calendar year when we issue Charitable Giving Tax Receipts for 2016 early next year.

*- Christopher Thomson, Treasurer*

### **SERVICE LEADING WORKSHOP**

On November 6<sup>th</sup>, twelve members of the Congregation (both old and new) took part in the workshop that **Rev. Frances Deverell** put together after the potluck. With lively discussion among the participants of the meaning of worship, we examined various approaches to integrating both ritual and discussion in a spiritually meaningful communion, thinking also about the roles of silence and music in the service. Having benefited greatly from her workshop last year, I personally thought it was a wise decision to have Rev. Frances return this year with new ideas to stimulate our service leading practices, both among experienced service leaders and newer members.

*- Christopher Thomson,  
Sunday Service Chair*

### **RAFFLES**

**Sari Kelen** prepared 3 baskets for raffling at the October potluck luncheon. This raised **\$78.75** for our coffers. The three lucky winners were one happy **Cormac Lutes**, one surprised **Jose van Amerongen** and one cool **Dan Amstutz**. Thank you Sari – and congratulations to the winners.

*- ed*

**LAKESHORE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION**

**5065 Sherbrooke Street, Lachine, Qc. H8T 1H9**

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<b><u>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:</u></b>	<b>week of December 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016</b>	
<b><u>OUR WEB-SITE:</u></b>	<b>www.LUUC.org</b>	

**MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ONE AND ALL - AND A HAPPY NEW  
YEAR!**