

LAKESHORE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

5065 Sherbrooke Street,
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JANUARY 2019



January 6th - 10:30 a.m.

LOOKING BACK, LOOKING FORWARD
Sheila Laursen

In ancient Roman religion and mythology, **Janus** is the **god** of beginnings and transitions, thence also of gates, doors, doorways, endings and time. He is usually a two-faced **god** since he looks to the future and the past.

Today, we will look back, personally and as a UU congregation, so the past can help us individually and collectively envision and move towards building a brighter future.

Service Leader - Heather Falconer
Musician – Helene Cimon-Auer

Hospitality: Dori and Peter Abbott

BELIEVE IN CURIOSITY

January 13th - 10:30 a.m.

WITH A CUP OF TEA
Rev. Heather Fraser Fawcett

What is the most important question you are not asking yourself? In today's sermon, Rev. Heather will consider some of the questions she's grappled with on her quest for understanding and meaning. What have been, and what are, your deep questions?

'It's New Years
At the corner of the village
Ume blossoms'

Service Leader - Susan Czarnocki
Musician - Kerry-Anne Kutz

Hospitality: Chris Bassett
Irene Hausknost

POTLUCK! POTLUCK! POTLUCK! Bring some tasty winter fare to share:
Pot Luck Crew: Monique Riedel will head her crew of **Selina** and **Michael Rooker**, **Paul Sullivan** and **Annie Ogle**.



January 20, 2019 - 10:30 a.m.

"IN THE DOING, WE BECOME"
Vivianne LaRivière

From Whom am I led? To Whom do I Serve? Vivianne will give a glimpse into the journey of where her personal life intersects with her professional life - and in so doing - her spirituality is defined as a political statement. She believes in the power of converging art with spirituality, and that such power has the capacity to bring about transformation: within oneself, and also help build and develop sustainable, healthy communities.

Vivianne holds a Master of Pastoral Studies, a Master of Theological Studies, and is in the final stages of thesis writing for a Doctorate of Ministry. (Practical theology).

Service Leader - Heather Fraser Fawcett
Musician - Kerry-Anne Kutz

Hospitality: Margaret Godbeer
Toni Smith

January 27th - 10:30 a.m.

EDUCATION FOR A SUSTAINABLE UNIVERSITY
George McCourt

Senior McGill lecturer George McCourt writes: *For the last ten years I have been involved in helping McGill develop a long-term plan entitled "Vision 2020" to make the university a more sustainable institution at the local level and a global leader in developing a more sustainable world. My work has focused on the use of Education to make McGill a more sustainable entity and community. Students of McGill come from all over the world and through their education I am trying to create an extensive group of sustainability and environmental advocates who will return home and continue the education process.*

Born in Ireland, George spent most of his youth travelling the world with his family and obtained degrees from both the University of Alberta and McGill. His research focused on ancient climates and causes of past climate change. He teaches courses in ecology, geology and the environment and supervises undergraduate research projects related to diverse issues around environment and sustainability.

Service Leader - Christopher Thomson
Musician - Kerry-Anne Kutz

Hospitality: Sari Kelen
Jane Edwards

BAZAAR RESULTS

A big thank you to all of you at LUUC – the bakers and the buyers - for participating in the Christmas Bazaar. We did well - making just over **\$600.00*** in total.

Baking: \$332.25* Fairy Houses: \$80.00 Jean's Trifle: \$30.00 Raffle: -\$96.75
Attic Treasures: \$67.00 *Some IOUs still have to come in.

I would like to add a special note of thanks to **FOUR** of the most remarkable women in our Congregation – and in fact on the West Island. Rev. Fred Cappuccino has always said that we have special angels in our congregation and these angels are always on hand to help – by making trifles, baking butter tarts, mince tarts, shortbread, gluten-free delights, and donating fairy houses. They assisted me immensely in planning the bazaar and selling our wares - but what is beyond remarkable is that their average age is **94!**
- ed

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

LOOKING BACK, LOOKING AHEAD

Sheila has taken this theme for our opening service for 2019, and a wise choice it is: making that effort to assess where we've been, before we set about charting our future.

Looking back, there is no question that 2018 ended on a high note: we savoured two services highlighting the talents of our members. First, the play "The Narcissist who Stole Christmas", written, directed, and acted by our youth contingent had a strong message packaged as a very digestible confection. The next service showcased the wonderful musical and dramatic talents of our members: guitars, recorders, singing, poetry readings --it was a cornucopia of riches.

But that wasn't the only big success that we achieved: we had a highly successful 'Mini-Christmas Boutique and Bake Sale, and we collected over \$300 to help provide Christmas Baskets for our "next-door neighbour", Maple Grove School, as well as donating a big stash of warm hats, scarves, mittens, etc.

Every aspect of these activities, whether it was Sunday Services or charitable giving, seemed to come together with great synergy. I felt that everyone was contributing from a spirit of 'we first' and not 'me first'. Perhaps we could call it 'peak collaboration'!

This makes the process of looking ahead less intimidating. The satisfaction of a year well-completed makes future challenges easier to contemplate. When we all bring in ideas, find consensus, and then get to work on what we decided, we make LUUC a powerful force for good.

- ***Susan***

DIRECTORIES

In your directory – kindly change **Michael Rooker's** e-mail to:
michael.rooker@videotron.ca.

THIS IS THE VERY WELL DONE SECTION

THE NARCISSIST WHO STOLE CHRISTMAS

I would like to thank **Erin Berry, Elsa Chavez**, the **youth group** and the **children** for performing their play and creating such a wonderful Sunday Service on December 9th - and to **Catherine Forbes** for helping with the production and the script.

I have watched the youth group grow over the years into beautiful, healthy young people, who are caring and kind – and now the younger ones are following in their footsteps – becoming confident and able to take on leading roles. It was so heartwarming to observe our LUUC young people - **Bella, Olivia, Ariel, Brianne, Talia, Damian, Emalyn, Henry, Alba** and dear little **Luna** who were all involved.

~ ed

YUMMY CHRISTMAS FRUIT CAKES

This year 36 different people ordered LUUC fruitcake - and 18 of those are not LUUC members. I made 93 pounds of fruitcake - 58 lbs. of dark, and 35 lbs. of light. The ingredients cost \$405 (but there was no charge for the labour). Every single pound was "made to order" and sold - in advance. My friend Suzanne and I worked for 3 hours one day to get many sticky pounds of figs and candied fruits chopped to baking size. Baking that much fruitcake took 6 baking "sessions" of half a day each as 15 lbs. in various sizes of baking pans fills my oven. My home smelled wonderful for days!

The fruitcake sale netted **\$748.50** for the LUUC coffers - and will be enjoyed by many happy fruitcake lovers. One happy purchaser added a very sizeable donation to LUUC - which made for one happy Treasurer too!

- **Sheila**

This is an above and beyond effort - and **Sheila** tells me she already has half a dozen orders for next year!!

- ed

TREASURER'S REPORT

As we start a new calendar year, I'd like to thank all the members and friends of Lakeshore who pitched in at the end of last year to build up our finances, either through direct pledge contributions or through fund-raising activities for the congregation and for charities we support.

Pledge income just in December was \$ 4 850 and an additional \$ 32.50 was added to our pot for our annual *Suitcases for Africa* scholarships. We have less than \$ 90 to raise to meet the \$ 500 goal.

Taking November and December together, we collected \$ 315 for the *Maple Grove School* Christmas Baskets (made up by the *Société de Saint-Vincent de Paul*).

And what to say about the extraordinary achievements of the Knitting Group and Sheila for the bazaar and the Christmas fruitcakes respectively. The bazaar raised \$ 588 while the net profit from the fruitcake sale was \$ 748.50! Bravo! The Lakeshore Community Choir also generated some revenue for our congregation as Rideau Funeral Home made a \$ 250 donation to thank us for the concert put on there by our Choir.

So your Treasurer is feeling dangerously flush with all the money that has flown in in December. Beyond a profound thank you, all I can say to the congregation is: Keep up the Good Work.

- Christopher Thomson, Treasurer

FUND RAISING

Last 'fall – the Knitting Ladies set themselves the task of raising \$1,000 to boost the LUUC coffers - hence the baking blitz in October and the Bazaar in December. At \$738, we are almost $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way to meeting our goal. Our future plan is to have a **soup event** – in late February/early March - when some of our best soup makers will produce an infinite variety of soups to tempt your palate. We hope you will support us in this effort.

Heather Falconer

LUUC CAROL SERVICE

What an enjoyable Christmas Eve we had at LUUC, singing traditional carols, listening to the choir and readings. There were 46 people attending, including a sizable choir, complete with red scarves. We were treated to **Rob** and **Cormac Lute's** duet – Rob on the guitar, and Comac on piano both singing Good King Wenceslas, **Paul Sullivan** and **Peter Abbott** ably contributed Christmas readings, and **Monique Riedel**, an accomplished service leader, kept everything running smoothly.

I thoroughly enjoyed the carols we sang and the special music by the choir - and soaring above it all - we heard **Kerry-Anne Kutz** singing descant. **Michael Cartile** on the trumpet and **Dori Abbott** on the recorder provided extra music, adding to the evening's pleasure. For *Silent Night*, the lights were turned off – and we sang by candle light - magical.

Peg Wooley and her family provided the refreshments. They arrived at the church loaded down with crock pots and umpteen cartons of apple juice and together with a good supply of spices, she produced her special hot apple cider. Enjoyed by all!

There were just two children attending – **Cormac**, who sang duet and **Simone Lutes**, who lit everyone's candles. Simone was looking particularly charming that evening in her red dress, and she was very aware of her lovely new twinkle-toes silver shoes!

- ed

WHAT'S ON AROUND TOWN

POINTE CLAIRE LIBRARY - two comedies: Tuesday January 8th at 1:30: ***Crazy Rich Asians***

Tuesday, January 22nd at 1:30: ***Don't Worry He Won't Get Far on Foot***. John Callahan has a lust for life, a talent for off colour jokes and a drinking problem...etc.

SOUP-POT CINEMA: at Union Church, Ste. Anne's on Wednesday, January 9th: ***Victoria and Abdul***, starring Judy Dench as Queen Victoria and Ali Fazal as Abdul Karim. Based on the true-story relationship between Queen Victoria and her Indian Muslim servant Abdul during the British Raj, **Contact Susan with offers of soup or bread: sahawker@hotmail.com**

CARING

CARING CONCERNS? For January and February, please call **Sheila Laursen** at 514-697-4195.

It was wonderful to see **Irene Hausknost** - plus her lovely smile - back at church and singing in the choir. She had been under the weather for far too long - and we missed her. Keep well dear Irene – remember - *you're worth it!*

Congratulations to **Rev. Carole Martignacco**, our former minister whose new book, *Open to the Spirit: The Soul's Alphabet, Awakening - Zeal*, has just been published. It's available for purchase through Amazon.ca.

Jose van Amerongen has taken off for Australia – we wish her a happy stay with her daughter – meanwhile **James** and **Sari** are looking after her little cat. The cat was injured last summer when she was run over by a car and needs extra special love and attention.

It was wonderful to hear our **Choir** in full voice when they sing to us on December 9th – and at the Carol Service on Christmas Eve. They were also performing at senior venues throughout the Christmas season.

I notice in **Sheila Laursen's** article about Farah and Balil that **Sari Kelen** has been helping the Syrian children with their lessons, particularly with French conversation. That is such a kind, caring and thoughtful thing to do and immeasurably practical.

~ ed

A GOOD DEED INDEED!

Peter and **Dori Abbott's** son **Neil** got off a city bus recently and realized that he'd left his briefcase behind. The bus driver took the trouble to find Neil's phone number in the briefcase and called him! Then he drove to Neil's usual bus stop near his house and handed it to him in person. Impressive!
- **Nancy Schmidt**

THE BOARD: The **Lakeshore Board** did not meet in December – the first Meeting of the New Year will be on January 8th, 2019. - ed

WHAT DOES THE CARING COMMITTEE DO?

What does the Caring Committee do? It is a committee of LUUCers who work quietly – without fanfare - looking after our members who are not able to be active these days, by sending cheery cards, phoning and visiting. **Dori Abbott** was instrumental in starting this committee several years ago – she researched other churches to see how their caring system worked – and called together a group of women willing to participate.

Every week for many years now, **Dori** has phoned **Barbara Jackson**, a long-ago and now bed-bound member, to enquire how she are doing, She also visits **Mary Rowan**, once a week to keep her in the LUUC loop.

It was **Dori** who suggested putting the ladies' family names in the directory – because when women were in hospital – we could not get in touch with them, as we didn't know their original surnames. **Dori** has recently realized that we have nineteen single people at LUUC – and is currently compiling a list of contact people should we need them. **Dori** works hard on the Caring Committee – concerns herself about LUUCers – and is one of our unsung heroes. She's a star and deserves a medal!

The Board has allotted the Caring Committee \$200 per year to spend on 'Caring' and they can spend it any way they feel necessary – it's up to the group to decide.

- ed

VERA FREUD

It is sad to note the death of Vera Freud – a long time member of the down town church, who died on December 3rd at the age of 90. Rev. Diane Rollert says that Vera was the "...wife of the late Walter Freud, she is survived by her sons Peter (Camille) and Alain (Leila) and her four beloved grandchildren, Noam, Oriana, Alexander and Alana. Born in Leipzig, Germany, she was sent to France as a child during the Second World War and participated in the French resistance as a teen. She came to Canada in 1961, and spent much of her life in Quebec, with frequent visits to Paris. She lived a full and meaningful life to the very end, fighting for freedom, tolerance, nonviolence and human rights."

When Rev. Fred Cappuccino, Stephane Miron and I initiated the Child Haven Dinners in Montreal over twenty years ago, Vera was there and always willing to help. One year she did the most extraordinary thing and gave me a beautiful golden topaz. She said that her father had put his money into precious stones during the War, and the topaz was one of the last remaining gems. I was overwhelmed with such a generous, storied and golden gift.

A memorial service and celebration of Vera's life will be held at the Unitarian Church of Montreal on Saturday January 12th at 1:00 pm. - **Heather Falconer, ed**

VIEWS FROM THE PEWS

Thoughts about The New Year ahead:

Paul Sullivan says: At this time of year as one comes to an end and another begins, people often wish that I might have a prosperous new year. Sometimes I wonder just how much more prosperity I need or want, especially in a world where so many have so little.

I often think of the words of the late Forrest Church, Unitarian minister of All Souls Unitarian in New York City when he concluded all of his sermons on a Sunday with advice to the congregation "to want what you have".

If prosperity is having what you want, it can only bring unhappiness and dissatisfaction as it has no end. To want what you have brings immediate and lasting appreciation of all that we have and makes us better people.

Sheila Laursen says: I have met several wonderful and courageous asylum-seeking families this past year who are now living in the West Island. Most of the families are from Nigeria, with others from Haiti and Cote d'Ivoire. Some of the parents are studying French and working as caregivers for vulnerable seniors, while their children are quickly learning French daily in school. I hope that their requests for refugee status in Canada will be approved in the coming year, so they can finally feel safe, accepted and welcomed in our wonderful country.

Karine Dechamps says: One of the very best talks I heard out of LUUC last year was from Minister Rodrigo Salazar. I am going to try to apply his wisdom to my life this year: I will NOT give unsolicited advice. That is my resolution this year. No more unsolicited advice. That is the key to making the resolutions from years past actually work, which were to be kinder and to listen better.

Toni Smith says: My wishes for us would be that our community remains a caring one and that our constant exploration of the world around us will deepen our commitment to the preservation of our planet. Happy New Year!

Kathy Matyas says: Quite a few years ago I gave up New Year's resolutions. Instead I pick one or two baby steps to improve my surroundings (physical and mental.)

There are some very wise words contained in these views –Thank you.

- ed



Special day, special person – a Happy Birthday to **Kerry-Anne Kutz** on January 24th – We all look forward to the Festival de la Voix later this year.

Happy Birthday to **Philip Prince** on January 26th- we hope your special day is filled with happiness. Enjoy!

Happy Birthday to **Gaetane Parent** on January 28th. We hope that love, laughter and sunshine is the order of your day.

Light the candles and celebrate January 29th – because it's **Nathalie Hainaut's** birthday. Happy Birthday Nathalie – hope to see you soon.

BEST NEWS STORY OF 2018

The best story of 2018 was the miraculous extrication from a flooded underground cave in Thailand of 12 members of the **Wild Boar** soccer club and their coach, when diving experts from around the world rushed to that country to assist with the rescue of the boys.

It was a time when people all over the whole world held their breath, and brave men risked their own lives with just one aim in mind – the rescue of 12 boys and their coach. It is not often that everyone on earth wants the same thing.

- ed

BE HAPPY AND BE HEALTHY IN 2019.

INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY

Mary Bennett of the Unitarian Church of Vancouver writes:

Our Genders and Sexualities Alliance have been working on language to create a statement of inclusion that we will put on posters and include in a brochure we are working on.

We wanted to emphasize lgbtq+ inclusion while noting other kinds of diversity as well - context. and wanted to use a different word than "welcoming" as that sounded to our group like an us/them word. Who is doing the welcoming? who is welcomed?

Just fyi - for the various religious stances, we made sure to only include names that we knew for sure someone in our congregation identified as (e.g. I had to check on Hindu and Sikh). We decided in order of chronological rather than alphabetical and even though some words aren't usually capitalized, we decided to capitalize them all.

VANCOUVER UNITARIANS

We are an Inclusive Community

Our congregation includes and values members who identify as

- lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, asexual, queer, straight
- many different ages, genders, ethnicities and abilities
- single, married, common law, divorced,
- with many different family structures and roles
- Pagan, Hindu, Sikh, Jewish, Buddhist, Christian, Muslim, Agnostic, Humanist, Atheist and intersecting combinations creating a diverse community of unique individuals with shared values.

Sent by Mary Bennett, Vancouver, BC

BE HAPPY AND BE HEALTHY IN 2019.

**WELCOME TO LAKESHORE
A NON-RELIGIOUS SPIRITUAL COMMUNITY**

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BE HAPPY, BE PROSPEROUS AND BE HEALTHY IN 2019.