

LAKESHORE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION
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LUUC NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2019

WELCOME TO LAKESHORE

We believe in love and justice
We're a radically inclusive community, of all backgrounds, ages, sexualities and abilities

We work towards a fairer, kinder world
We create space for personal growth and reflection
We nurture a community that is caring and supportive

Welcome to our congregation.

As a non-credal church, what do we actually believe in? Quite a lot actually. We believe that although today's world is riven with injustice, we must always hope and work towards a kinder, fairer world.

We believe that there is potential for good in every person, no matter how wounded they may be, or how buried that potential may lie. We believe that the world can be good and can grow even better and that this responsibility lies firmly in our hands.

SUNDAY SERVICES

Our regular Sunday Gathering offers an opportunity for wisdom, joy, solace and community, followed by a healthy dose of caffeine, cake and conversation.

Services include live music, a story for children, singing, poetry, literature, a talk and a time for sharing our joys and sorrows.

REFLECTIONS ON THE PRINCIPLES OF UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISM

Unitarian Universalist congregations affirm and promote seven Principles, which we hold as strong values and moral guides. During the busy, sometimes hectic, month of December, we will celebrate our UU Principles and the joy to be found within our LUUC multi-generational community.

DECEMBER 1st - 10:30 a.m.

**THE DEATH AND LIFE OF GRIFFINTOWN:
21 STORIES**

G. Scott MacLeod

We welcome filmmaker and art educator G. Scott Macleod back to our UU congregation, this time to take us on a walking tour of 21 of the most fascinating historic sites in Montreal's iconic Griffintown neighbourhood, including the New City Gas, Griffintown Horse Palace and the former Dow Brewery. With only a handful of residential and industrial buildings remaining, this former working-class Irish and French Canadian neighbourhood endures.



Working in collaboration with historian and author Dr. Matthew Barlow, MacLeod has blended archival photos with his own animations and Barlow's storytelling to bring to life the forgotten past of this working class industrial neighbourhood that was instrumental in the growth of Canada through oral histories.

**Service Leader - Rob Lutes
Musician - Kerry-Anne Kutz**

Hospitality - Chris B./Annie

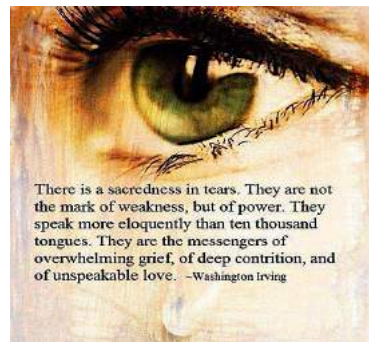
BAZAAR – BAZAAR - BAZAAR TO FOLLOW SERVICE

DECEMBER 8TH - 10:30 a.m.

SACREDNESS OF TEARS
Rev. Fred Cappuccino

Our beloved Minister Emeritus, Fred Cappuccino, age 93, will speak on "Sacredness of Tears." Washington Irving said, "There is a sacredness in tears. They are not the mark of weakness, but of power."

And Fred has said that if the people are good he will NOT sing an old Irish song.



Service Leader - Heather Falconer
Musician - Kerry-Anne Kutz

Hospitality - Irene

POT-LUCK LUNCH today with Sheila as crew chief, Timothy, Gaetane, Huntly and Jane. Let us celebrate a Christmas feast together.

DECEMBER 15th - 10:30 a.m.

INTERACTIVE YOUTH HOLIDAY SERVICE
Children & Youth of LUUC



This multi-generational service will be created and presented by our LUUC youth and children. There will be readings, singing, and many delightful surprises.

We hope to see everyone there to celebrate and welcome in the holiday spirit!

Service Leader - Erin Berry
Musician - Kerry-Anne Kutz

Hospitality - Dori and Peter

PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE NO SUNDAY SERVICE ON DECEMBER 22.

TUESDAY DECEMBER 24th - 5:30 p.m.

Our Musical Director Kerry-Anne Kutz will lead our community in our traditional Christmas sing-a-long, with poems and story-telling. Christopher Thomson will read *T'was the Night*

Before Christmas to remind us of the magic and wonder of this holiday season, and all ages will join in to make this a joyous, festive service.

**Service Leaders - Paul S/Timothy B.
Musician - Kerry-Anne Kutz**

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE
Kerry-Anne Kutz and friends**



Hospitality: Susan/José

DECEMBER SUNDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE:

December 1st: Regular Service
 December 8th: Regular Service
 December 15th: Regular Service
 December 22nd: **NO SERVICE**
 December 24th: Special Christmas Eve Service at 5:30
 December 29th: **NO SERVICE**

We look forward to seeing you back at LUUC in the New Year 2020!

January 5th: Regular Service

BAZAAR - DECEMBER 1ST



Are you all geared up for our **Baking Bazaar on Sunday December 1st**? The Ladies have been busily baking your favourite treats - including marmalade and jellies to taste - so do come and support them and stock up on Christmas baking. Also, for your perusal, we have an Attic Treasure/Craft Table - stocked with unusual articles to tempt you, including hand-made wooden items by **Paul Sullivan** and the ever popular raffles. You never know, you may just find that special treasure you have been looking for.

FUN! FUN! FUN! - COME! COME! COME!

- ed

WISHING YOU ALL HEALTHY AND HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

FROM OUR PRESIDENT



Susan writes:

Hi Heather, I'm at the airport and will try to write my President's notes for the newsletter.

In September, I wished you all 'Happy New Year' to salute a NEW LUUC YEAR. But in December, the Julian calendar rules. Such was the power of Julius Caesar, helped along by the European drive to dominance. Maybe in the next round of this struggle, New Year will move to February, and your grandchildren will be learning Chinese!

It was great to see everyone 'strut their stuff' at the talent show. We are a pretty talented bunch!

I'm off to Florida for US Thanksgiving-- will be back to buy the fresh baked goods at the bazaar.

~ *Susan*

PS: Have a happy time in Florida, Susan – enjoy the sun – and come back with a tan!

- *ed*





Treasurer Report

TREASURER'S REPORT

So far this church year, I have spared the Congregation this relatively dry material about our financial situation. However, it is pertinent from time to time to take a minute to think about the material resources which make the life of our community possible.

As we usually do in the Autumn, we drew down in November another *tranche* of \$ 5000 from our Investment Fund (with *Lester Asset Management*). Unfortunately, the markets this year are not doing so well and, at the end of October, six months into our current Financial Year, our holdings were down almost \$ 7000. Nonetheless, please be of good courage as we still have over \$ 320 000 in long- and short-term investments.

The amount of investments we hold is over **ten times** the value of all our **tangible assets**, or physical property. In the context of a steeply rising insurance premium, related to rising payouts in part due to the Climate Crisis, the Board decided to adjust the value of our property coverage to better reflect the actual inventory (on a replacement cost basis) which the Vice President and Treasurer established in 2017. We have approximately \$ 30 000 in tangible assets (including acquisitions since 2017) so we reduced our coverage from \$ 43 150 to \$ 33 000, and, also, increased our deductible from \$ 1000 to \$ 2500. We have left our **Liability** insurance unchanged at an aggregate limit of **two million dollars**.

At the last Annual General Meeting in June 2019, I presented the revised Annual Program Contribution formula which the *Canadian Unitarian Council* (CUC) proposed to member congregations. I noted that if we had the same number of members, i.e., 31, in December as in June, we would pay \$ 2413 for 2020, and that additional members would cost us less under the new formula than the per capita formula which we were using. The Congregation adopted the proposed formula. I have the pleasure of informing you that we are **now up to 33 contributing members**, and our payment to the CUC will be only twelve dollars more than predicted, i.e., **\$ 2425 !**

Fun-raising and fund-raising activities have started up again this fall. Returning by popular demand during the November potluck, the Ladies again offered **glorious frozen soups** for sale, which brought \$ 185.50 to Lakeshore. **Many thanks, Ladies**. And the Talent Show,, intended purely as a fun activity for our Congregation, at least covered its costs, bringing in \$ 84.40 in free-will donations.

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The *Suitcases for Africa* benefit concert brought \$ 140 to our coffers, which is put against our on-going commitment to support the educational program of Suitcases for Africa. Both Kenyan students who were receiving \$ 250 scholarships each year are no longer in school, but the Board agreed to provide a \$ 250 contribution in December to support various educational initiatives by Suitcases. We will, then, have over \$ 100 left over to be used at the end of 2020.

Christopher Thomson, Treasurer

ARTICLE IN THE MONTREAL GAZETTE



We received a very interesting e-mail from a journalist at the Montreal Gazette called Hayley Juhl. She writes on topics of interest to parents and is researching a story on getting or keeping children interested in spirituality. As she plans to explore how different organizations tackle this issue, she wanted to speak to our SE co-ordinator, **Erin Berry** and ask her a few simple questions.

We felt this was an invaluable opportunity to spread the Unitarian word – “Heaven sent?”

Unfortunately, Erin has been unwell lately, so we suggested that Hayley send us the questions – which she did. We forwarded these questions to the SE Mums and Dads – whose glowing reports detailing the merits of LUUC’s SE program were heartwarming. These we forwarded to Hayley – and it turns out that Hayley has a Unitarian background. We now await the article in the Gazette and will let you know when it is to be published.

- **ed**





CARING – CARING – CARING

Jose van Amerongen will be in the Caring chair for December and January. You can contact her at 514-694-9842.

Unfortunately, I have to report that **Jean Merrifield** had a tumble which required several stitches on top of her head. I'm happy to report that Jean seems to be fine now – she performed a solo skit in the Talent Show, much to everyone's amusement. She's one special lady – and we all wish her continued health and happiness.

- ed

INTERESTING SOCIAL EVENT

A December *SOCIAL EVENT* will be at Beaurepaire United on Sunday, December 15th. We are calling it "CARING with SHARING your BAKING" - and RECIPES. So please come with your goodies so that we and others can ENJOY.

VIGIL FOR ÉCOLE POLYTECHNIQUE

Merging Waters and other West Island Faith communities are leading a Vigil: A service of Reflection and Remembrance - 30th Anniversary of shooting at École Polytechnique. Friday, December 6, 2019 12 noon. St. Columba by-the-Lake Presbyterian Church, 11 Rodney Ave., Pointe-Claire (door on Vincennes)



Silent night, Holy night - all is calm all is bright – Noel

LUUC'S GOT TALENT – WITH A CAPITAL 'T'



LUUC's Talent Show was started by **Catherine Forbes** in 2010 – and has been growing ever since. This year, for the third time, our host was **Rob Lutes** – and with performers ranging in age from 5 to 103 - boy have we got talent! We are surely a unique bunch and the church was a-buzzing.

Dear young **Simone** played Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star, **Jean** did one of her hilarious skits, and **Cormac** played the piano for us as well. **Henry** told a couple of funny jokes, while the duet of **Bella**, on ukulele, and **Olivia** sang the Beatles' song *Yesterday* – and together with **Ariel**, they sang a wonderful version of *Jar of Hearts*, with Olivia on piano – these are three very talented singers. **All SE members**, including **Damian**, **Emalyn** and **Elsa** performed in a very amusing skit on a visit to the doctor's office.

Wayne and **Sandy** from the Choir, opened the show, and later the Choir sang two lovely pieces. **Dori** played a duet on the recorder with **Eric**, and a piano duet by Dubussy with **Hélène**. Talented **Sari** played a charming piece on the piano that sounded to me like a waterfall, while **Philip** sang *Rosetta* with his guitar. Without the benefit of a microphone, dear **Fred** sang a spirited version of *Danny Boy / Bonnie Dear* – (which had me tearing up) and, **Rob** sang one of his own compositions dedicated to his grandmother – (the subject of the Sunday Service was Grandmothers in Africa) – very moving. **Sheila** and **Margaret**, dressed up in their *Raging Grannies* attire, sang a couple of ditties.

Unfortunately, the Choir had to file out for practice before the end – but the talent continued. **Christopher** sang an Otis Redding song and **Susan**, dedicating her song to Bohdan, sang a Scottish Aire. Unusual accent! **Timothy** composed a poem – which is printed on the next page – **Paul** read a hilarious politically-correct version of Red Riding Hood - while **Peter** and his **Banjo Band of Abbots** rounded out the show with several songs for all of us to sing together. Great ending!

We all munched happily throughout the show, as **Susan** and **Christopher** had arranged a concession-style lunch of hot dogs and pizza – thank you all for a great LUUC morning!

- **ed**

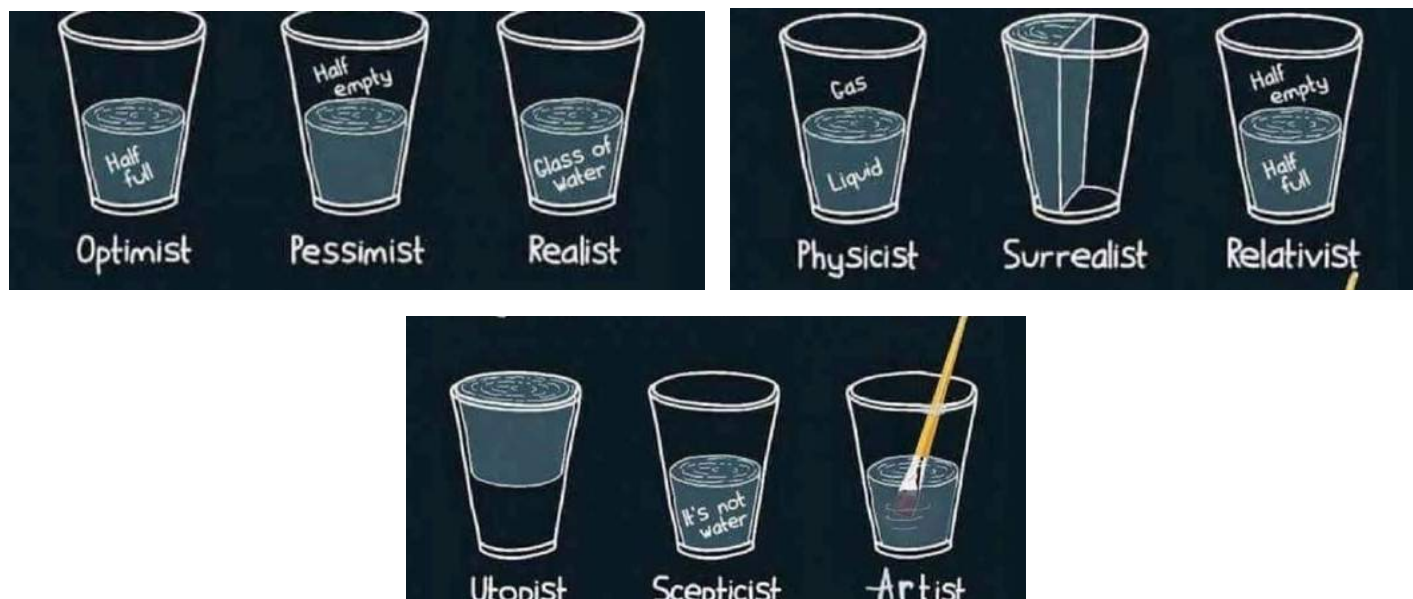
Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way - Noel



GREAT WORDS – BUT GOOD ENOUGH FOR THE SHOW?

A talent show is near
 One in which you wish to appear
 But you cannot dance or sing
 And just words seem to be your thing
 But words can seem lame
 And on their own, not enough to entertain
 Perhaps words are better written where they can be forever read
 And, anyway...
 the most powerful words speak for themselves and often better left unsaid
 But give it a try, and ask the audience to come along
 Even if your words are not funny, without a tune or in a song
 There can be true beat in the meaning
 Incredible rhythm in the rhyme
 And, most of all, make sure you finish on time.

- Timothy Byrnes



The Holly and the Ivy, when they are both full grown – of all the trees that are in the wood the Holly bears the crown. - Noel



December 2nd is **Nancy Graham**’s birthday. We all wish you a Happy Birthday **Nancy** – and thank you for all the good works you do for the West Island Food Fund.

What a pleasure it was to hear **Hélène Cimon-Auer** play the piano at the Talent Show. Happy Birthday to you **Hélène** on December 6th.

It’s **Sari Kelen**’s birthday on December 9th. She is multi-talented – from playing classical music at the Talent Show to making pots of delicious soup for the soup sale - all with a ready smile – and so much appreciated. Happy Birthday **Sari**.

Dear **Irene** we wish you a very Happy Birthday on December 18th. We appreciate your devotion to our Choir – and wish you good health and happiness in the New Year.

Two lovely LUUCers have a birthday on December 22nd – so near to Christmas. We have known **Talia Sanchez-Rooker** since she was a little girl – and hope she is enjoying her Science program studies at John Abbott College. Happy Birthday **Talia**.

Happy Birthday too on December 22nd to **Annelise Ogle**. **Annie** has a smile that lights up a room – and I’d like her to be Service Leader again, so we can hear her recite some of her favourite poems.

How wonderful it was to see **Caleb Willms** bring his lovely little Mischa to our service about African Grandmothers. Happy Birthday on December 23rd **Caleb**.

- ed



Let It Snow, Let It Snow, Let It Snow...

CLIFFORD LINCOLN



On November 10th, we were all impressed with Clifford Lincoln's inspiring talk. He spoke without notes and chose to talk to our Second Principle - Justice, equity and compassion in human relations.

Born in Mauritius, he attended the University of Cape Town, South Africa – and told us of his friend, a black lawyer, who because of apartheid was deprived of his profession. His friend's clientele lived in an area of Cape Town called District 6, an inner-city residential area with a coloured population.

Because of its desirable location and its proximity to Table Mountain and the Harbour, District Six was declared a whites-only area. The buildings were razed to the ground, and the coloured people were moved many kilometres away to a bleak township called Cape Flats. Over 60,000 inhabitants of District Six were forcibly relocated and Clifford's friend could no longer serve his clients. The many injustices and atrocities of apartheid are well known.

Mr. Lincoln then spoke of the election of Nelson Mandela – who after being imprisoned on Robben Island for over two decades, became the President of South Africa. President Mandela, as we all know chose a peaceful path rather than a vengeful one.

Following the aftermath of the apartheid, President Nelson Mandela attempted to unite his country by supporting the Springboks – the hated white rugby team – in their bid to win the 1995 Rugby World Cup. His instinct was correct – and after many vicissitudes, both blacks and whites were cheering for the Springboks – who miraculously and against all odds - did win the World Rugby Cup on home ground.

NB: There is a wonderful movie *Invictus* which illustrates this point. It stars Morgan Freeman as Nelson Mandela and Matt Damon as the Afrikaans Rugby Captain Francois Pienaar.



- ed

FALL CLEAN UP

Paul Sullivan and our President, **Susan Czarnocki** assisted with the fall clean up at the beginning of November – and afterwards they enjoyed a lunch served with Norwegian beer. Our landlords always appreciate our help – our thanks to Susan and Paul for representing us.

- ed

Christmas comes but once a year – and when it comes it brings good cheer. Anon



LUUC'S TALENTED MUSICIANS AND LAKESHORE CHOIR DATES

Rob Lutes and his exciting jazz-blues project Sussex will give its final show of 2019 on Saturday, December 14 at the beautiful Salle Pauline Julien, 15, 615 boulevard Gouin West, Sainte-Genève, Quebec H9H 5K8.

Tickets are \$15 - \$25 at the venue or online here:

<https://www.pauline>

[julien.com/evenement/485/Sussex_Ocean_Wide/?perf_id=572](https://www.paulinejulien.com/evenement/485/Sussex_Ocean_Wide/?perf_id=572)

Preview of songs here: https://youtu.be/Svz_pq-doXg



Kerry-Anne and her choir have two special concert performances:

November 30th: St. Joachim's church in Pointe Claire at 7:30pm

December 1st: St. James Anglican Church, Morrisburg, Ont. at 3:00pm

Karine Deschamps, her mom Judi and 2 sisters invite you to join their family concert: "*Noël chez les Deschamps*" -- A unique, fun and touching show for everyone!

The family will be touring from Nov 29 – Dec 22 and will be in Verdun on Dec 7th. Tickets are \$35 and up.

For more information or to get your tickets:

https://www.judirichards.info/shows?fbclid=IwAR0_CX1EXmW7UoiqjhlVwlpN7t0AAUT-ZpOL0UJlejui5hBJKapplYYzVTE



MOVIES AROUND TOWN

December 3rd, a Tuesday, Union Church, Ste. Anne: soup and cine – 7:00pm.

Finding Your Feet – a Drama/Comedy

Featuring: Imelda Staunton, Celia Imrie, Timothy Spall

When 'Lady' Sandra Abbott discovers that her husband of 40 years is having an affair with her best friend, she seeks refuge in London with her estranged older sister Bif. The two could not be more different. Sandra is a fish out of water next to her outspoken, serial dating, free-spirited sibling. But different is just what Sandra needs at the moment, and she reluctantly lets Bif drag her along to a community dance class, where she starts finding her feet.

Dec. 5th a Thursday, at Pointe Claire Library – 1:30pm

Rocket Man – a musical about Elton John's early years.



NOTES FROM THE BOARD – IN BRIEF

Financial Affairs: Our Treasurer, Christopher Thomson provided us with three reports: the Balance Sheet as of October 31st, 2019, an Operation Sheet for October 2019 and a year-to-year comparison sheet. October was a quiet month, with an income of approx. \$2,000 and bills of \$3,500. Christopher had a shock when the insurance bill came in. Details earlier on in the newsletter.

Sunday Services: The Sunday Service committee has been very busy and has a full slate of speakers until the end of January 2020. The December services are particularly interesting: film maker Scott MacLeod takes us on an historic walk around Griffintown on December 1st; Rev. Fred Cappuccino on the 8th; the youth and children will present their annual Christmas service on the 15th; and a special Christmas Eve service on the 24th.

Choir: The Choir has been rehearsing for two important upcoming concerts: November 20th at St. Joachim Church in Pointe Claire and December 1st at Morrisburg, Ont. The Board would like the choir to sing for us more often during Sunday services – if not the full choir, then a duet or trio.

Property: We have permission from the Norwegian Board to put up a rainbow flag in the church building. The Norwegians plan to add a storage room at the back of the church – (where the big bell is kept) – a few pews will be taken away – but this will not hinder us at all.

Fund Raising: The soup sale was a success – and the next effort will be the Bazaar on December 1st. There is talk of a garage sale or plant sale in the spring.

Office: We have purchased a new photo-copier that does all kinds of wonderful things - to be delivered shortly.

Talent Show: This was a very successful and talented affair with 21 acts – see earlier page. Everyone enjoyed it. Unfortunately, towards the end of the show the Choir filed out for their rehearsals – thus reducing the audience to a minimum. This was regrettable. We have apologised to those who were affected – and we will try not to schedule too many things on the same day in future.

- ***Heather Falconer, Board Secretary***

It came upon a midnight clear that glorious song of old - Noel



OUR BAZAAR

The Ladies of our LUUC Congregation are planning a mini-BAZAAR on December 1st 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, loaves, preserves – with tastings - raffle baskets – Paul’s crafts.

SOUP SALE

Many thanks to the **LUUC Ladies** for making tubs and tubs of delicious soup. We raised **\$184.50** – a very satisfying amount. The sale was over in a few minutes and I’m sure that all the eager purchasers – (and our treasurer, Christopher) - were satisfied too.

CONCERT FOR SFA

At the end of October, Kerry-Anne, the choir and her students held a concert at LUUC for Suitcases for Africa. LUUC received a portion of the money raised – which amounted to \$140.00. As you know we support SFA’s education fund to the tune of \$250.00 per year. The money raised from the concert will go towards that fund.



- November 30th - Kerry-Anne’s concert in Morrisburg**
- December 1st - Bazaar at LUUC**
- December 1st - Kerry-Anne’s concert at St. Joachim’s**
- December 3rd - Finding Your Feet - movie at Ste. Anne’s
- December 5th - Rocket Man- movie at P.C. Library
- December 6th - Vigil for École Polytechnique –
- December 7th - Karine’s concert in Verdun**
- December 14th - Rob Lutes Concert in Sainte-Geneviève**
- December 15th - Social Event at Beaurepaire U. Church
- December 24th - Christmas Eve Service at LUUC.**

More details of the above events can be found elsewhere in the newsletter.

God Bless us every one. - Charles Dickens.

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MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A HAPPY AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR
TO YOU ALL

