

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



SEPTEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 13, 2020 - 10:30 a.m. via Zoom

Rev. Carole Martignacco

CULTIVATING A WILD LOVE FOR THE WORLD

Only a wild love for the world will make us fearless enough to turn the world around, make courageous changes to survive, and create a sustainable future. Based on the wisdom of Buddhist philosopher and environmental activist and teacher Joanna Macy, we will explore tools for the work of our time, between what Macy calls the Great Unraveling and The Great Turning.

Musician - Kerry-Anne Kutz

Hospitality - Nancy Schmidt & Sheila Laursen

SEPTEMBER 20, 2020 - 10:30 a.m. Via Zoom

Susan Czarnocki

WE ARE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER

In the first instance, this worldwide pandemic returns us to the binary emotions of our most primitive reflexes: fight or flight. Carelessness in our behaviour can result in suffering for others, even onto death. Persons who deny their vulnerability decrease security for others. We are indeed our brother's keeper. The irony is that we are being thrust into this collective challenge when safety is to be had in isolation.

In March, soon after we plunged into the world of virtual services, we paused to do a *tour de table*, a check-in on our states of being. This service will be an opportunity to do that again – to exchange our preoccupations in the hopes of encouraging in each of us, all that it takes to build back better.

~ continued...

****NOTE:** What has been the toughest for you to face? What has been an unexpected joy? Have you discovered something new that has added quality to your life? If you are willing to share, please contact Susan Czarnocki by September 17 to let her know.

Musician - Kerry-Anne Kutz

Hospitality - Nancy Schmidt & Sheila Laursen

SEPTEMBER 27, 2020 - 10:30 a.m. Via Zoom

Talia Sanchez

POETRY OF YOUTH

Talia Angelina, now a young adult of 18 years, will read virally popular prose by young people on social media. It's an exciting era for modern day poets, who respond to their environment and reflect with their peers in real time.

There will be Reflection moments throughout. A Sharing panel, led by Talia, will conclude our contemplative journey.

Service Leader - Sheila Laursen

Musician - Kerry-Anne Kutz

Hospitality - Nancy Schmidt & Bella Gavanski



BIRTHDAYS

Three of our youth have birthdays this month – and we wish this special trio a very Happy Birthday- **Bella Gavanski** on September 3rd, **Brianne Amstutz** on September 7th and **Cormac Lutes** on September 28th. They have all been busy over this very unusual summer – as you will find out if you read the SE page.

~ ed

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Greetings from Florida:

Living in Florida in August puts a corrective to our dreams about tropical paradise. It's like being in Montreal in January: spending most days inside because being outdoors is unbearable!

Coming back soon to cool [can't wait] temperatures -- and two weeks of isolation. See you all on ZOOM on September 13th!

~ *Susan*

A MESSAGE FROM GARY SPILLER, OUR VICE PRESIDENT

The following is the proposed Vision Statement for the Social Action Committee. The previous one, if in fact there ever was one, has been lost to history. Will you kindly read it over, and send your comments to gary_spiller@yahoo.com. Please note that this is NOT a Mission Statement.

PROPOSED VISION STATEMENT

LUUC Congregation is a vibrant, diverse, intergenerational community of people who come together as humanitarians to seek answers to their questions about life, healing and inspiration to live as our best selves within our complicated world

VISION

**LUUC is a beacon of hope and inspiration
We move hearts, hands and minds
to make our commitments
to human rights and social justice come alive.**

SPIRITUAL EXPLORATIONS

OUR CHILDREN/FAMILIES AND YOUTH SUMMER ADVENTURES DURING COVID



LUUC has an amazing group of kids, youth and young adults – we are so lucky! We're all looking forward to our SE program resuming in September. Selina and I are currently developing a strong UU curriculum for all of our age groups. While Zoom has been an incredible 'lifeline' for adults and youth, it will be important for the younger group to be able to meet fairly regularly in person, whether safely-distanced in the hall or in the great outdoors.

The focus for the Junior Youth group will be on bonding, spirituality, morals and possibly for them to work together on a Spring Service (Solstice/Easter/Passover) for the congregation.

For the Senior Youth, as part of the curriculum we are hoping that some of them will step up to become Greeters & Service Leaders and that others will volunteer to speak to the congregation on topics that they feel passionate about.

We hope to see **Nabil** as a regular in our junior youth group!

~ **Catherine Forbes, SE Director**

Now, let's hear from the families & youth on what they've all been up to during this very unusual summer...



Cormac and Simone have enjoyed summer so far. School only stopped briefly for Cormac. He has continued with an online reading group with two friends and has taken a few online courses, two through Loyola where he will be starting high school in the Fall, and one in coding through a company called Outschool. He has also spent time biking, camping and of course, playing with friends, on and offline.

Simone is reading regularly with a friend online and having lots of fun with her neighbour Lennox. She is also a big fan of swimming and biking this summer! We spent a week up north near Monique's extended family and she loved having a lake nearby.

Both kids are enjoying our new puppy Ruby who it turns out is a very keen swimmer.

~ **Rob**





Hello All, Annie here. We have had a wonderful summer. Although we had to shift our usual White Mountains camping trip to Saint-Raymond, QC, Covid conditions allowed us to dive deep into family and cousin time at the lake and in the woods, and things have felt almost normal for us.

We have done more swimming and hiking than ever, and enjoyed a cousin art camp at the chalet - which we liked much better than our usual day camps.

~ **Annie**

The girls spent the summer enjoying the pool and playing with friends locally. We went to the country house to spend time with my parents. We had a very uneventful Covid summer. They just recently finished one week of dance day camp and really enjoyed being among friends and having some structure for a change. We are all looking forward to getting back to school no matter how many masks or visors we have to wear.



Ps. We also went camping for the first time! And the girls got their hair dyed pink for the summer!

~ **xxKarine**



Hello LUUC community, I hope everyone has been making the most out of a very restrictive summer. I personally have been finding places to go, such as the botanical gardens. I find it to be very peaceful and most importantly, safe. Because it is all outdoors, everyone is very separated. When I am at home I always make sure to stay in communication with my friends via social media. Indoor activities are very limited and everything is different for places that are open. Despite everything going on I've only gone a little crazy, hopefully it stays this way until we all get through this.

~ **Damian**

Hey Everyone, My summer has been one filled with love, sun and heartfelt memories in the beautiful outdoors. Although I haven't been able to spend time with some friends and family, I have learned the importance of keeping in touch with those close to you. I've had the opportunity to go to Ontario and help my mother grow her beautiful village in Perth. I have also experienced some difficult times during this pandemic as many of the Psychology labs I have applied to are not going to be continuing their research in the fall or are unsure about their situation. I hoped to work at a summer camp but was unable to because of the ongoing threat of Covid. I feel thankful though that during this time that I have been safe and that the people close to me have not been affected by this virus.



~ **Bella**



Hi LUUC! My summer has somehow been the most and least eventful summer I can remember. I hadn't seen my friends or been out of the house much at the beginning. I didn't do all the "normal" summer things kids/teens are supposed to do. But I have been able to complete the first aid course in my nursing program! I've also started cooking more and created tons of art, but most of my summer has consisted of our family coming together to help out my mum with her little mobile home park in Perth, Ontario! Without Covid, we probably wouldn't have spent as much time together as a family. Although a summer of masks, hand sanitizer wasn't what anyone had expected, it has allowed me to focus on some hobbies I wouldn't normally have had time for and really be able to bond with my family.

~ **Olivia**

As restrictions were being lifted little by little, I was able to get back to my job. I work at a sandwich shop called Dagwoods and I was recently promoted to assistant manager. Other than that, I'm grateful that I'm able to spend some time with my friends instead of being cooped up all summer. Escape rooms (such as A/Maze and Escaparium) have recently opened, so I'm taking advantage of my favourite activity.

~ **Talia**



Despite the pandemic, Ariel and Bree have had pretty busy summers. Ariel saw an opportunity to move out, which she has been wanting to do for years now, and grabbed it. The family spent the first weekend of August painting her room and getting her moved in. She is still in NDG, so not too far from the nest, which suits this mama-bird just fine!



Brianne has really connected with some of her cousins on her dad's side of the family. They treat her like a younger sister and since Bree has always wanted older brothers, she's soaking up the attention being doted upon her. She visits them (properly socially distanced) every week, and spends time video chatting with them and playing online video games.

~ **xoxolrene**

We have spent most of the summer up at our cottage in Harrington, Quebec, where there's a lake we can swim in. I took many sunset photos standing on the dock. It's really beautiful because it's so peaceful and quiet. It's been a really good place to do photography. This summer it's been fun to see all the interesting plants and flowers that grow. Also, there's been cute animals like chipmunks and hummingbirds that come to visit... I've taken photos of everything! And here's a photo me...

~ **Sionna**



THE CHILDREN AND COVID



One of the most troubling problems with Covid is what to do with the children and their schooling. What a worry for the poor parents. People have asked me if the current school situation compares with life at school during WW2. There are some similarities - schooling was interrupted, there was constant danger and we carried masks... but I can only answer for myself and the school that I attended.

Schooling interrupted: I was four when the war began and should have gone to school in September – the month the war started. But the Royal Air Force had commandeered our school to train pilots – so for months there was no school for the youngest students to attend for lack of a building. The Board had to scramble to find us accommodation and eventually, an ancient condemned school was hastily put back into use - and I attended that. However, as there were so many displaced students at that time, we attended school on a half day basis only – with well over forty children per class and sometimes two sharing a seat. The poor teacher had all those kids to cope with plus she had to keep us away from the danger of a roaring open fire – there was no central heating.

This half day situation lasted for 18 months before our school was returned to us. Even then the classes remained large. As all the other children in my grade were in the same boat - i.e. being behind in our curriculum - this was not a problem until we went to high school, where we mixed with children from all over the district. I was fortunate that my parents understood this, and sent me to a private school where the class sizes were very small. When I was half way through the Upper Fourth – (Grade 9) – I was jumped a year and settled into the Lower Fifth - (Grade 10). There were only ten students in the class - and of course the war was well over by that time. So fortunately for me, the early disruption didn't affect me in the long run – (Although I never did catch on to ratios.)

Danger: The danger was not from a virus. Physical touching was not a problem – in fact we huddled together in the air raid shelters. The ever-present danger came from above – particularly with the advent of the 'doodle bugs' - those nasty rocket bombs. They arrived unbidden many times a day, so when the air raid siren sounded, we all scurried to the shelters – not particularly conducive to learning. Children were not allowed on the streets during a raid unless accompanied by an adult, so sometimes we were stuck at school for ages until our Mums could collect us. Like so many others, our teachers performed above and beyond their teaching mandate – they were our 'mothers' during school hours.

Masks: Yes, we had masks and were required to carry them at all times at the beginning of the war. They were in cardboard boxes – very cumbersome for little children. They were absolutely horrid to put on – as we had to put our whole faces into them. They smelled awful of concentrated rubber – and we all looked so scary in them. Fortunately, we donned them only during drills – and never had to use them for real.

~ Heather Falconer, ed

FESTIVAL DE LA VOIX

The **Festival de la Voix** will be presented live before a small audience and virtually online at our very own LUUC, as well as Dorval and Beaconsfield between September 19 and October 4. We hope you can join us! Many exciting artists including **Ensemble Caprice**, **Patsy Gallant**, soprano extraordinaire **Aline Kutan**, "Global Visions" with **Lavanya Nasariah** and her husband, **Aditya Verma** a brilliant player of the sarod (instrument from India) and their ensembles and the wonderful professional chamber choir, **Le Choeur de chambre du Québec** in CHORALISSMO! We're even presenting a workshop on sight-reading 101 that you can attend on-line with a wonderful choral conductor, **Roseline Blain**. See you there! Thank you LUUC for your deeply appreciated support.



~ *Kerry-Anne Kutz*

ANGELS ON THE ROOF

Kerry-Anne, together with **Michael Cartile** and the **Choir** sing Angels on the Roof on YouTube. This beautiful rendition is dedicated to 'the people of Nova Scotia and all the victims of violence we hold in our hearts.' Do listen again: <https://youtu.be/rgKQ23puuoU>

~ *ed*

TREASURER'S REPORT



Treasurer Report

Many, many thanks to all who have continued to support our congregation during this difficult time. We recognize that for many uncertainty remains and it is difficult to make regular donations. Our finances are in a reasonably good state thanks to the rent relief from the Norwegians for July and August. Our investments are slowly recovering from the major downturn they took in March and April. The very successful Summer online Auction helped and we hope to repeat it later this fall.

If you are able to make a donation either by cheque or through e-transfer to lakeshoretreasury@gmail.com please do. Our expenses will increase in September as we look forward to services resuming and the SE program starting up again.

~ *Margaret*

CARING

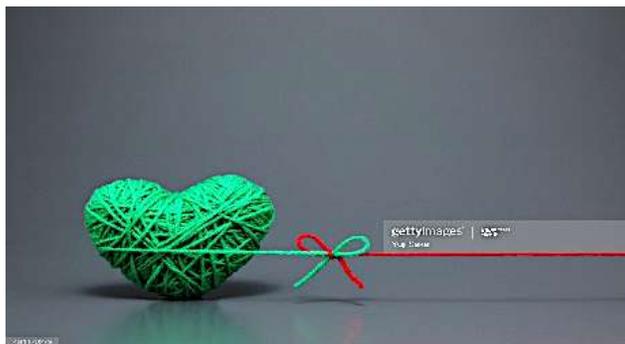


José Van Amerongen has agreed to 'care' for us for the next two months – September and October. You can reach her at friedajose@gmail.com or 514-694-9842

KNITTING GROUP

The Knitting Group will not gather as usual this fall – but they have already had back yard meetings and decided to make lap quilts for seniors. This is an easy project for us and was **Jean Merrifield's** suggestion.

~ ed



FOULARD DE LA MEMOIRE

Several of our knitters have been busy this summer knitting for a cause. A colleague of Margaret's is organizing a "Foulard de la mémoire". We have knitted rectangles that will be embroidered with the names of all who lost their lives from Covid-19 in CHSLD's in the Southwest area of Montreal.

The plan is to have the display ready for October 1, 2020, the International Day of Older Persons. Hopefully some of us will be able to attend the event (and take photos!). Thanks to everyone who knitted.

~ Margaret

ROB LUTE'S BACKYARD CONCERT



A number of us were able to enjoy a lovely summer evening in **Christopher's** lush green backyard as **Rob** set up on the newly finished deck and entertained us with his always wonderful musical talent. As dusk fell, the birds settled in the canopy of trees, adding to the music as the chad flies danced in the last rays of sunlight – it was all quite magical.

Many thanks to **Rob** and **Christopher** who managed to organize the evening as part of the service auction offerings. One of the best parts of this perfect evening was seeing each other after months of connecting only by Zoom!

~ Photos by Margaret



Nirupam, Christopher, Gary, Heather and José hiding behind the orange daylily.



Paul, Susan, Sheila and Nancy

BEWARE OF THE SCAMMERS

Catherine reports that the scammers are again using **Rev. Fred Cappuccino's** name to send us e-mails with the heading "Hello I need your help." These do not come from Fred. If you receive such an email, please delete it and any future such e-mails, at once. Such are the problems of our modern times.

~ ed

SOCIAL JUSTICE

At a recent Social Justice meeting, **José Van Amerongen**, an avid recycler, suggested that we save our wine bottles and take them to the liquor commission in Ontario, where they pay for return of bottles. **José** is happy to store them and keep them in her garage until she has a carful – when she will take them to Hawkesbury. This initiative will keep many West Island bottles out of the blue wheely bins and the money will go into LUUC's coffers.

Do let **José** know if you have any bottles for her special recycling effort at friedajose@gmail.com or 514-694-9842 – and tell your friends. Then we must work to have the Quebec Government offer a similar incentive. Sounds like a win/win to me.

- ed



BLACK LIVES MATTER



Our goal for the group was to engage all participants in conversations about race and racism that are not normally had. The aim was to centre the voices of Black presenters (via YouTube) and hear some stories about issues that have been and are faced by the Black community. Topics have ranged from dispelling myths about how racism functions in North American society, Black hair and cultural appropriation, white privilege and the differences between equality and equity, and spotlights on notable non-violent activists such as John Lewis and Fannie Lou Hamer. I believe that the group has raised awareness of issues and historical figures that most participants were not previously aware of.

Interview with John Lewis: https://youtu.be/8atXMqZ_w0M

~ **Samantha Lustig**

"Diplomacy is the art of dealing with people in a sensitive and effective way. To tell people to go to hell in such a way, that they ask for directions".

~ **Sir Winston Churchill**

A MAN ON A PLANE

A white woman in her 50s arrived at her seat on a crowded plane, and immediately didn't want the seat. The seat was next to a black man.

Disgusted, the woman immediately summoned the Flight Attendant and demanded a new seat. The woman said "I cannot sit here next to this black man!" The Flight Attendant said, "Let's see if I can find another seat."

After checking with other Flight Attendants, she returned and said "Madame, there are no more seats in Economy, but I will check with the Captain to see if there is something in First Class".

About 10 minutes went by and the Flight Attendant returned to state, "The Captain has confirmed no more seats in Economy but there is one in First Class. It is our company policy to never move a person from Economy to First Class, but to avoid a sort of scandal and force a person to sit next to an unpleasant person, the Captain agrees to make a switch to First Class."

Before the woman could say anything, the Flight Attendant gestured to the black man and said, "Therefore, Sir, if you would so kindly retrieve your personal items, we would like to move you to the comfort of First Class as the Captain doesn't want you to sit next to an unpleasant person."
 ~ **Submitted by Jean Merrifield**

HAMILTON Us HOST 6-MINUTE MEMOIR EVENT

13 storytellers will share their tales on the theme of "Forgiveness"

A dozen storytellers will share their personal experiences of forgiveness during a special live streamed 6-Minute Memoir "speed storytelling for a cause" event on **Friday, September 25 at 7:30 p.m.** hosted by the First Unitarian Church of Hamilton. The 6-Minute Memoir challenges presenters to tell a compelling tale in six minutes or less.



This fundraiser will benefit the work of the church as well as Hamilton Food Share. Tickets are \$10 per household and are available at uuhamilton.ca/6mm-tickets/.

Now in its 8th year, the 6-Minute Memoir has raised more than \$45,000 for local charities. For more information on the 6-Minute Memoir go to: <https://www.annebokma.com/6-minute-memoir-live-events>

SNIPPETS FROM THE LUUC BOARD



The LUUC Board met on August 18 (by Zoom, of course), with **Susan** joining from Florida, **Selina** from Niagara Falls, and the rest of us in the beautiful West Island of Montreal!

- We will have a Fun & Frolics committee again! **Gary Spiller** has taken on the Board Liaison role for that, so if you want to help us have fun while frolicking, please contact **Gary** (514 697-6257). And **Rob Lutes** will figure out how we can hold another wonderful LUUC Talent Show - by Spring 2021.
- Our Zoom Sunday Services will have a team of Greeters each week - with **Nancy Schmidt** as coordinator. They will welcome you to the service - whether you arrive by computer or phone, and will assist with online “chatting” and catching up during our Coffee time (you will have to bring your own beverage to that...)
- During the Board meeting, **Susan** was surprised and delighted when **Margaret Godbeer** took over the Zoom screen to show a Mariachi Band’s rendition of Happy Birthday - as **Susan’s** birthday was the following day.
- Even during the heat of the summer months, the Sunday Services, Spiritual Exploration and Social Action committees have been hard at work planning for the fall. We are looking forward to seeing your faces and hearing your voices on Zoom!
- The Norwegian Association of Montreal has renovated and transformed the church building during the summer. There is a new seating area at the back of the sanctuary, many new cupboards to store their supplies, fridges, freezers etc and our items, and 2 new floors built above the stage! The NAM will welcome the Air Cadets as new tenants; using the now emptied Hall and stage on Saturdays for their drill practices, etc. Garden sheds will now store the chairs and tables to be used in the Hall.

~ Sheila Laursen, Board Secretary

YOU CAN WEAR A MASK AND A SMILE **thanks to a Montreal entrepreneur**

A recent article in The Montrealer is about a Montreal based company, Canamasq, that makes masks with a window for the mouth.

As noted in the article , “Canamasq solves the communication problem by making the mask wearer’s expressions visible through a polyethylene window so that older people and those hard of hearing can lip read, and children can be reassured by a smile,” said Audra Renyi, who is also Executive Director of World Wide Hearing Foundation International. “There’s no more need to shout, repeat yourself or lift your mask to make yourself understood.” Here is the link to their website:
<https://canamasq.com/?v=3e8d115eb4b3>



The masks cost \$10 each. I am going to place an order, and have arranged to pick them up rather than pay the shipping costs (I have written the company and they agree to that). So, if you would like to order one - or more- of these masks too, just let me know. I will pay for the full order and arrange for you to repay me upon delivery.

~ **Sheila Laursen** (sheila.laursen@bell.net. or phone 514 697-4195)



Gary, Ofie and Cow

ON THE MOVE FOR ACTION REFUGIES MONTREAL



Be **ON THE MOVE** by September 26, 2020. From August 26 to September 26, we invite you to ride a bike for 26 kilometres, or walk 5.2 km to support the work of Action Réfugiés Montréal. You might decide to do a physical activity 26 times a day for 26 days. **This is our only fundraiser of the year! This event replaces the Ride for Refuge, so you choose when and where you ride or walk.**

Please lend your support by joining our team via a CanadaHelps page and have fun while fundraising. After you register, please ask friends and family for their support. All donations are eligible for a tax-receipt. Our team goal is \$12,000. **Every dollar counts. Sign up here: [Bougeons!!](#)**

In this year of physical distancing, let's get physical, and stand together for refugeeed people. Action Réfugiés Montréal accompanies about 1,000 refugeeed people every year. We have developed new ways to lend support throughout the pandemic: phone calls, Zoom meetings, and providing masks to hundreds.

Let us know how you intend to be On the Move! Tell us why you have joined our event. Send us a photo or video at bougeons@actionr.org. We hope to gather in a safe way on **Saturday, September 26**. We will let you know details once we know if a small outdoor event is possible.

For more information, please call our office at **514-935-7799** and leave a message. We are not in the office, but we will get your message and we will get right back to you!

~ Submitted by Christopher

A COUPLE OF HOMELESS DAYLILIES

Would you would like a couple of daylilies to perk up your garden?

Stella D'Oro – small, reblooms, ruffled edged, golden flowers, pictured on left, quite beautiful. Also: a similar orange daylily that doesn't rebloom. Both about 1 ft. high. They prefer sun, but will tolerate some shade. They have already bloomed this year – so will enhance your garden next summer. Fall is the best time to replant. I will deliver. \$0.00. Contact Heather at 514-630-4206 or heather.falconer@videotron.ca.



LOCKDOWN

Lockdown, open up, so many rules
They change all the time and cause me to confuse
My routines are broken, my life's all askew,
It's the Pandemic Blues, I miss all of you.

No hugs nor handshakes, "Don't touch my bod!"
Inspected and tested not infected thank God."
Masks, and washes and using drive-thrus,
Zooming and take-outs and drinking more booze.

To keep up to date, I watch the world news,
It's all a big circus of dancing who's who.
Boris and Donny and Vlad will abuse
While Bonnie and Denna I trust as gurus.

To ease my sore mind, I put on my shoes,
And take to my bike and go for a cruise.
I ride through the trails and search for a muse -
It's the Pandemic Blues, I miss all of you.

We rise in small groups to avoid a miscue,
And talk up a storm and try to defuse
We wait for that day a vaccine will enthuse,
To cast off at last our Pandemic Blues.

Best read at sunset while a distance harmonica wails and a mournful dog howls.

My brother in Edmonton sent me this. It was written by one of the members of his ski/cycling club - (yes, my older brother is a skier.)

~ Margaret Godbeer



SARI'S PERFECTLY WONDERFUL, AMAZING SUMMER THAT INADVERTENTLY TURNED HER INTO AN ADOPTED GRANDMA

Sometime after we were all locked down and sent into isolation, Sheila asked me if I would like to teach French to **Nabil** the son of an asylum seeker. I agreed, and, not knowing what I was getting myself into, soon began to feel I'd been given a gift. It turns out Nabil loves to learn everything, not just French. I feel that teaching him was my reward for all my years with the school system. Can you imagine this, how could this be?

I love this child! He is so clever and curious, very artistic, and full of imagination, he has a million things to tell me as soon as I'm there. He's obsessed with Spiderman and now we are working together on making a mask of his hero. He has a French translator device and of course beats me when I use a dictionary. He's found his own apps, such as Duolingo for Kids, to help him in pronunciation and vocabulary – and looks up words on his own. I can hardly believe it. He's only eight years old! I can't believe my luck! I have a new lease on life. I'm considered an aunty, as I would be in Nigeria if I had a connection to the family.

When I call him on What'sUp, I say, "Bonjour Nabil, ca va bien?" He answers perfectly, "Oui, ca va tres bien merci, et toi?" I am amazed! I like his mother Patience, too. She was delighted when she learned that I'd been to Nigeria. A connection was made which helped both of us. At the beginning I taught him only once a week via a Facetime call. Before long Nabil asked me, "Can you teach me every day – *five minutes*?" I said I'd think about it and let him know the next day. I said, "Yes, every day, Monday to Friday and for much more than five minutes."

Here is some of my journal from August 7th:

The day improved greatly with driving to Lachine for **Nabil's** lesson, right away **Nabil** wanted to sing, "Mon merle a perdu sa plume" again. I drew pictures on **Sheila's** blackboard of each thing the blackbird had lost – then he sang it all by memory.

He saw I'd brought "le Chandail de Hockey", the brilliant book by Roch Carriere. He wanted it all in English first; I respected his wish, and then reread it in French. Then we looked at the workbook that Sheila discovered at Walmart. He chose the pages where he had to colour clothing. The boy's sweater was supposed to be blue. He made the Toronto's Maple Leaf on it, using the image from Roch Carriere's book. He'll work on the rest of it using his translator if he gets stuck.



After this, I brought out celery, an apple and a green pepper. I drew how different vegetables and fruits grow, showing that "la tige" is the part of the celery that we eat. I cut up the others to show "le pépin" and "la graine" - and he liked the green pepper. I gave the rest to him to take home.

He wants me to bring the material to make his Spiderman mask on Monday. Since **Nabil's** bike is exposed to the elements, "j'ai mis de l'huile sur la chaîne de la bicyclette before I left. Nabil is a very happy boy! And I am an unintentional granny with a spring in my step.

~ **Sari Kelen**



HELPING ASYLUM SEEKING FAMILIES AND REFUGEES – THE WORK GOES ON

1. Johanne

August 17, 2020 brought great news for Johanne, the Haitian woman who several LUUCers and other West Island friends have helped since she moved into an empty apartment in Montreal North with her 2 young sons in August 2017, after her husband's refugee application was rejected and he was flown from the USA back to Haiti.

Johanne then brought her sons to Canada, over the 'famous' Roxham Road irregular crossing, and asked for asylum. Following an immigration hearing, she was accepted as a refugee to Canada in January 2018.

This week, she and her sons have received their Permanent Residency Status for Canada, 3 years after their arrival. This will now allow Johanne, who has been working as a caregiver in senior care facilities for about 1 1/2 years, to now apply to sponsor her husband. Great news indeed!

2. Patience

Just before the lockdown, many of us welcomed Patience and her young son Nabil to our Sunday services, and Pat stuck with our Zoom services, in spite of many technical challenges. At the end of July, a team of 6 LUUCers and 3 other friends helped Patience move their furniture and belongings into a 2-bedroom apartment in the same building. While the new apartment was bigger and brighter, it didn't come with a fridge and stove, but the landlady kindly loaned some from an apartment being painted for the short term.

And that is when one of those amazing "miracles" happened. Someone who has been part of **Sheila's** unofficial "team" of movers and supporters heard about a woman in Lachine wanting to give away her fridge and stove, and some other items. Sheila, Pat and Nabil visited her, and on Monday August 24, the woman's fridge, stove (in great condition) plus a 3-seat leather sofa, a love seat, a swivel armchair and a coffee table - will all be moved into Pat's new apartment! The cost of professional movers to do that is being covered by generous donations from 8 people so far! If you would like to help cover those costs, please contact Sheila.

Sari Kelen has been tutoring Nabil in French, almost daily, over the summer, with great success. Thanks to her skills and time, Nabil is eager and comfortable speaking French, which he will soon be using in his new school.

~ **Sheila Laursen, Board Secretary**



A collaborative effort



West Island Network
Réseau de l'Ouest de l'Île



DRIVE-THRU FOOD DONATIONS

YMCA Pointe-Claire

Saturday August 29, 2020

9am-1pm

230 Brunwick Blvd. Pointe-Claire, QC

Donations urgently needed!

All donations will go to:



West Island
Mission
de l'Ouest de l'Île

FDOI
WIAF



Services Communautaires
In Rock
Community Services

Fonds d'aide de l'Ouest-de-l'Île
West Island Assistance Fund

Recommended donations:

canned meat and fish, canned vegetables and tomatoes, family size cans of chunky soups, spaghetti sauce, peanut butter, cereal, 1L juice, Rice, baby food: purees and cereal, toiletries: razors, shaving cream, tooth brushes and tooth paste

WELCOME TO LAKESHORE

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

MINISTER EMERITUS: Rev. Fred Cappuccino 613-527-2829

BOARD MEMBERS:

PRESIDENT: Susan Czarnocki 514-773-1117

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SECRETARY: Sheila Laursen 514-697-4195

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S.E. DIRECTOR: Catherine Forbes 514-660-4665

LAY CHAPLAINS: Kerry-Anne Kutz 514-624-2307

Paul Sullivan 514-457-1793

ADMIN. SECRETARY Catherine Forbes 514-637-6974

Lakeshoreluuc@gmail.com

WEBMASTER Christopher Thomson 514-634-5916

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Heather Falconer 514-630-4206

ILLUSTRATION ARTIST: Catherine Forbes catforbes@gmail.com

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OUR WEB-SITE: www.LUUC.org



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