

LAKESHORE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION
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514 - 637- 6974



JUNE 2021 NEWSLETTER

FEEDBACK ON JUNE'S SUNDAY SERVICES

June 6, 2021 - Sheila Laursen, Ellie Tyndale & Toni Smith on Our LUUC Canadian Tapestry

- **Gary Spiller** - What a beautiful project with so much work and dedication - thanks for remembering this history for us!
- **Milda Graham** - I was one of those 51 children.. I remember seeing my art transformed into embroidery, which I could not do myself, but found very beautiful! Magic!

June 13, 2021 - Rev. Heather Fraser Fawcett on Embodiment as Play

- **Rob Lutes** - Thank you Heather. Such a wonderful pathway to explore.
- **Ken Fawcett** - Just a few words to thank you all for allowing us to join in your service. We both enjoyed it and found your company and the whole service itself enjoyable and quite up-lifting.

June 20, 2021 - Christopher Thomson & LUUC Members on Ending with Our Beginning

- **Charlotte Kelen** - I loved the poems you read, Milda, and your father's colourful paintings of trees, eyes, wings and totems.
- **Sheila Laursen** - Thanks to everyone for those wonderful memories of the important men in their family and their life...

**VERY IMPORTANT ARTICLE AT THE END OF THE NEWSLETTER
 FROM OUR PRESIDENT.**

COME TO THE PICNIC



IMPORTANT:

Please bring your own lunch food and beverages, plates, napkins, utensils and chairs in addition to your masks.

Hand sanitizer will be available in the bathrooms. Please respect health guidelines and keep a safe distance from others.

Parents must monitor their children at all times including if they play on the equipment in the playground and if using the bathroom.

Reserve your place with Sheila Laursen sheila.laursen@bell.net (514-697-4195)
MAXIMUM 20 PEOPLE (in addition to the organizers). ~ Gary

LUUC AUCTION RESULTS

The 2021 LUUC Service Auction went off without a hitch after service on June 6, with a short follow-up auction on June 13. There was a collegial and very eager mood on the virtual auction floor as LUUCers raised their virtual numbers to purchase the bevy of wonderful offerings. Thank you all for joining in this activity!

We were able to capture all this information with great help from **Monique** who compiled the long list of buyers during the auction. Many thanks also go to **Selina** for help with the conception of the event, to **Christopher** and **Nathalie** for helping get the word out, and to **Heather Falconer** who tallied up each individual's purchases. And, of course, to **Margaret** who will record the amounts paid and attend to the accounting of this fundraiser.

All offerers and buyers have been sent the list of buyers for their offering(s) and a tally of their purchases.

They should send a cheque for their tally to **Margaret** at the LUUC or send her an e-transfer at lakeshoretreasury@gmail.com

Each offerer is responsible for coordination of delivery/pickup/scheduling of their own items or events with their buyers.

At this point it looks like we collectively raised **\$2,217** for the LUUC! Great work everyone and thanks for your participation.

~ Rob Lutes



Relax for a few minutes and allow your self to enjoy – click here:

Question from a 5-year-old: Where do the Sparkes come from?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-EgnBtQVHKc>

ECOMUSEUM OUTING



RAIN DATE: JULY 3RD 🐿️. Due to rain, LUUC's SE Committee has decided to postpone our outing to Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue's Ecomuseum Zoo until July 3rd.

THERE IS STILL ROOM FOR FOUR MORE PEOPLE ON THIS OUTING.

RSVP ASAP: selrook@gmail.com

PLEASE NOTE: We now plan to meet near the entrance of the Ecomuseum at 9:45am, on SATURDAY, JULY 3rd. 🐿️

Our group will enter the zoo at 10 o'clock. Late arrivals will need to enter on their own and to look for us along the trails. 🐿️ Our group will reunite in the main pavilion at 11:30 to say our goodbyes to one another. Those who wish to stay at the zoo until noon or later are welcome! 🍪

If you do plan to stay for lunch, you must pack your own picnic lunch as the Ecomuseum only has a snack and drink dispenser available. You will be required to eat in the assigned picnic table area only. 🐿️ Please reconfirm your attendance with Selina for July 3rd at: selrook@gmail.com 🐿️

Currently, Ecomuseum daily tickets must be *purchased in advance of your arrival to the zoo. <https://zoocomuseum.ca/en/visitor-information/>

***PLEASE DO NOT BUY YOUR TICKETS FOR THE 3rd UNTIL YOU RECEIVE A CONFIRMATION EMAIL FROM SELINA OR CAITLIN ON THE 1st OR 2nd.**

**Entrance fees are as follows:
 Child (3-15 years old) \$10.75
 Adult (16-64 years old) \$18.50
 Senior (65 years and over) \$14.75**

Reminders: 🦋 Remember to bring your health safety mask, sunscreen, water, umbrella//rain gear if raining lightly. Please reconfirm your attendance with Selina for July 3rd at: selrook@gmail.com

**LUUC's SE Committee,
 Selina, Caitlin, Patience, and Annelise**

RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS

Non-Indigenous People Here's What You Can Do To Help

1. Learn about the residential school system and it's ongoing impact

- review the Truth And Reconciliation Act
- have discussions with your families and friends
- follow Indigenous authors
- listen to survivors and their families
- avoid requesting Indigenous to provide emotional labour

2. Donate to organizations that support survivors and their families

- The Indian Residential School Survivors Society
- The Orange Shirt Society
- Indigenous led child welfare organizations
- language revitalization, cultural and land based programs
- indigenous led community organizations, such as the First Nation's Child And Family Caring Society

3. Contact your MP and other elected representatives and insist they take action

- ask that perpetrators be held accountable for their actions
- demand a comprehensive search for unmarked graves for ALL residential schools
- demand that all residential school be protected and funded as heritage memorial sites
- demand action to end ongoing of colonial violence against Indigenous children
- demand action on the overrepresentation of Indigenous children in the child welfare system

4. Prioritize safety of survivors and their families when sharing these stories

- understand many Indigenous people are retraumatized right now
- avoid asking survivors to share their stories
- provide content warnings

5. Demand action from the Catholic church

- demand apology from the Pope and Catholic Church
- demands lands owned by the church be returned back to Indigenous Peoples
- have discussions within your church communities

-BE THE CHANGE-

Please read the list of actions on the following page.

Dear LUUC Congregation:

On the previous page is a list of actions that we can take to encourage the government to implement the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) Recommendations.

Many non-indigenous people are asking what they can do in light of the shocking reports of unmarked graves on the grounds of former residential schools in BC and Saskatchewan.

Here is what the congregations of several church members have proposed (including Catholic, United and Anglicans who ran these schools).

Do we agree? Although the other Churches have apologized shall they not be held accountable as well?

Ultimately the government is responsible and many Canadians are now calling for major changes in the way First Nations are treated. New Zealand has been proposed as a model where their Maori First Nations can own land, are not confined to reserves or subjected to an anachronistic Indian Act.

Maori is taught in all New Zealand schools. When will Mohawk be taught in Montreal schools?

Food for thought.

~ Gary Spiller

The Fallout
Armand Garnet Ruffo

*I never asked my auntie what she learned
in Residential School. What comes to mind
is her beading and sewing, the moccasins
she made for us, the precision.
What I don't recall are any hugs or kisses
like my European relatives lavished on us.
As though the heirs of Columbus has a special
claim to affection for those like us
caught in between.*

The poet Armand Garnet Ruffo is an Ojibwe from Chapleau Ontario

SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM GARY TO LUUC CONGREGATION

Here is a draft of a letter to the PM that I would like to send this week. Please let me know if you would like to sign it and if so add your names below. You can also print the letter, sign it and mail it for added effectiveness.

Thanks

Gary

June 30, 2021

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau
Parliament Buildings
Ottawa

The Lakeshore Unitarian Universalist Congregation is a progressive spiritual community that welcomes and nurtures, inspires and challenges, and takes action in the world. We are committed to reconciliation and to solidarity with Indigenous people across Turtle Island. Our congregation is a member of the Canadian Unitarian Council, which, along with the Unitarian Universalist Ministers of Canada, submitted a [statement](#) to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in March 2014. We strongly believe in the moral and spiritual imperative to address the harms of the residential school system, and that the moral necessity of facing Canada's complicity in cultural genocide requires us to act now. We were horrified at the news of the Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc's recent discovery of the remains of at least 215 children buried on the grounds of Kamloops Indian Residential School and another 751 unmarked graves located on the site of the Marieval Indian residential school discovered in Saskatchewan by the Cowessess First Nation, after a search with ground-penetrating radar was launched on 2 June. **We are writing to request that you honour Canada's commitment to implementing the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's recommendations.**

The Kamloops and Marieval Indian Residential Schools were only two of over 130 residential schools that were in operation across Canada. In all, about 150,000 First Nation, Inuit and Métis children were removed from their communities and forced to attend the schools. As horrific as this mass grave in Kamloops is, Indigenous experts and leaders indicate that there are likely many more throughout the country; as many as [fifteen thousand](#) children may have died at the schools.

On May 31, 2021, [CBC News reported](#) that the TRC had requested funding from the Canadian government in 2009 to search for unmarked graves at the former residential school sites. That funding request was denied. **In honour of the 215 victims found at Kamloops IRS, and to honour the children's lives lost across the country, we urge you to fund radar-penetrating surveys of residential schools across Canada, under the direction of Indigenous communities.**

A [report from the Yellowhead Institute](#) found that, of the TRC's 94 calls to action, only 8 had been implemented by the end of 2020. Please address this shortcoming and adopt **an official federal reconciliation strategy**, which would include:

- Immediately funding the TRC's calls to action #71-76, which concern missing children and burial information;
- Creating a comprehensive, integrated federal plan for implementation of all its other calls to action; and
- Passing legislation (Bill C-15) that would implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples before the end of the year.

We urge you to follow through on the Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families, which was enacted in January 2020. [According to the 2016 census](#), only 7.7% of children in Canada are Indigenous, and yet Indigenous children account for 52.2% of those in foster care. Of the 28,665 children under the age of 15 in private foster homes, 14,970 are Indigenous. The [2011 National Household Survey](#) showed that 38% of Indigenous children in Canada live in poverty, compared to 7% of non-Indigenous children. The systemic reasons for these inequities must be addressed immediately.

Canada must commit financial resources to recognizing and addressing the traumas that residential schools have inflicted and continue to inflict upon Indigenous peoples within Canada, prioritizing funding for Indigenous-led healing and community services.

On behalf of the Social Action Committee (SAC) of the Lakeshore Unitarian Universalist Congregation (LUUC) in Lachine Quebec, we await your response.

Sincerely

<p>Gary Spiller SAC Committee Chair LUUC</p>
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TO MICHAEL

Mike Rooker is a talented man
Who helps out whenever he can.

His book talks of fate
And his photos are g-r-e-a-t.

And 'Mikey' – I'm one of your fans!

~ ed

THE CARING CORNER



Bonnie and Fred have joined us on Zoom for several of our Sunday Services, and it is always a joy to see them. At a recent service, they told us that 2 of Child Haven's older staff had died of Covid 19 - one in India and one in Nepal. However, the children of the **Child Haven Homes** have remained in good health. Wonderful news!

Rev. Fred Cappuccino and Bonnie are mourning the death of Venkataram Kalyanam, Gandhi's former

Secretary, who was a long-time supporter of Child Haven International. There is more about this wonderful man's life in this newspaper article:

<https://www.pressreader.com/canada/national-post-latest-edition/20210603/281543703850682>

Nabil is going to begin a wonderful summer day camp experience for 2 months, thanks to the generosity of the YMCAs of Quebec and 2 West Island Catholic Churches. He will participate in the YMCA\City of Pierrefonds-Roxboro camp at George Springgate Park - **Sari Kelen** has begun giving Nabil swimming lessons which will be continued by the YMCA staff over the summer months. Knowing **Nabil**, he will learn many other new skills, and make lots of new friends too!

~ **Sheila**

Paul wrote: A wonderful service for **Bill Riley** was held on Friday June 25th at the Lakeview Memorial Garden in Pointe-Claire. Bill passed away on April 10th from failing health over the past few years and will be missed by his wife **Toni Smith** and many family members as well as members of our own congregation.

The setting was idyllic: a warm sunny summer afternoon, under the shade of a few red maple trees and the perfect atmosphere that included members of Bill's band that played a few of his favourite tunes. Willard "Bill" Riley was an accomplished musician, expert organ player and organ installer, teacher and composer.

Bill was just a great guy, and we are going to miss his characteristic laugh and the musical memories he left us - "*and I hope that trump might blow me home,*" African American Spiritual.

Sheila wrote: **Toni Smith** was surrounded by friends and family for a moving Funeral Service for **Bill** on Friday June 25 in the beautiful Memorial Gardens of Lakeview Cemetery in Pointe Claire. **Paul Sullivan** led the service and recited some of Bill's favourite poems. Bill's Brass Band buddies gave him a stirring tribute with "Amazing Grace", some Jazz and Oldies tunes, including "When the Saints go Marching In." Those joyous sounds amongst the trees and memorials of others gave us a wonderful setting to celebrate Bill and his love of music.

Our deep sympathy goes out to **Chris Bassett** and family. Christina's mother's death in May was followed within a month by her father's death in June.

Rev. Diane Rollert wrote: What a season of loss it has been for our community. On Sunday I lit a candle of sorrow in memory of **Bob Bassett** who sadly passed away Saturday evening, June 19th. Bob was admitted to Montreal General on Thursday June 17 with a very weak heart. He died just a few days later with his four children at his side Rob, Christina, Kelte and Karen.

Bob was a longtime member who served as our treasurer many years ago among other roles. He was a loving father and husband who had lovingly taken care of his wife Mary before she passed away less than a month ago. They were married in the Unitarian Church of Montreal in our former building on Simpson Street sixty-three years ago.

Bob was the kindest and most generous man, infinitely patient and humble, always concerned about others. I will miss him dearly, as will so many of us. Cherish each moment you have. Reach out to those you love and know that you are valued in this community.

JEAN MERRIFIELD MEMORIAL BOOKLET



In an email sent immediately after Jean's death, I was suggesting that LUUC set up a Memorial Fund in Jean's name. When I began to look into it, I realized how much administering would be involved, and I reconsidered my suggestion. Board discussion resulted in a decision to keep things simple. Jean's obituary mentioned that gifts could be directed to Dans la Rue, the Teresa Dellar Palliative Care Residence in Kirkland, or a charity of your choice. Respond as you are able and mention that the donation is in Jean's honor.

Printed and Bound version of Special Newsletter can be ordered for \$20.00 email: lakeshoreluuc@gmail.com Or phone **Susan**.

MARCHE BEAU

Beaurepaire Market aka Marché BEAU - BEAUConnexion – is an initiative by Les Amis du Village Beaurepaire for people in the area to connect households in the Village to help each other. <https://www.facebook.com/LesAmisduVillageBeaurepaire>. There was a good response to the opening day. Do drop by on Friday's 3-6pm. at the corner of Beaconsfield Boulevard and Fieldfare.

~ ed



There will be many luscious birthday cakes in LUUCers' homes throughout this summer – we wish you all happy celebrations:

In July **Happy Birthday** to:

- 3 - Adam Frost
- 5 - Karli Warren
- 8 - Ofie Spiller
- 12 - John Schmidt
- 13 - Huntly McNiven
- 19 - Monique Riedel

And in August **Happy Birthday** to:

- 6 - Maud Bonnier
- 7 - Alba Santos-Deschamps
- 11- John Foulds
- 19 - Susan Czarnocki
- 21 - Gabor Matyas
- 23 - Margot Barclay
- 25 - Moi
- 27 - Susan Hawker

TO MAUD

Maud is our Irish Coleen
Whose thumbs are decidedly green.

There's no mistakin'
Her cooking and baking

Are delicious when served with cream.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY DEAR MAUD!

~ ed

UPDATE FROM OUR CHAPLAINS



Our chaplains, **Kerry-Anne Kutz and Paul Sullivan** have been somewhat busy over the past year despite the Covid restrictions on gatherings.

I think we have been diligent with those asking us to perform acts of civil status, infant dedications, weddings, and funerals or memorial services. We follow to the letter government guidelines for the safety of all, including the celebrants.

Requests for our services have fallen off over the past few years, June and July were once extremely busy months, remembering doing 3 weddings on the same day.

We are still at the ready to represent this congregation to not only our own members, but to the community at large.

~ **Paul Sullivan**
Chaplain

THE ELEPHANTS OF CHINA



Something very strange is happening in China – a herd of Asian elephants has decided to trek North. They have covered 300 miles through desert, forest, villages and streets – causing chaos on their way. A couple of naughty elephants got into some alcohol and returned home! The others continue over hill and over dale, trampling on crops and lumbering their way through gardens, farms and even homes – leaving mayhem in their wake. The only quiet time is when they cuddle up for a snooze.

The whole of China is fascinated. As I write, this pack of the pachyderms is still heading North. Where is this wondering herd going and why? No one knows – except the elephants of course, and they're not telling.

~ **ed**

AROUND TOWN

A new **Neighbourhood Market** in Pointe-Claire is a project by the TQSOI (Table de quartier sud de l'Ouest-de l'île), in collaboration with Bread Basket. It will be held every second Wednesday from 4pm-6:30pm in the parking lot of the Bob Birnie arena from July 7 to October 13.

The market's goal is to make fruits and vegetables from our West Island farms affordable and accessible to all. This year's market will be open to the general public but aims to primarily serve people with a low physical and/or economical access to fresh produce.

We invite you to share the attached promotional material with others, helping them buy quality produce at affordable prices close to their home. We are ready to accommodate all budgets by offering fair prices in a not-for-profit setting. Here's the link to our Facebook event. Please feel free to share it on your Facebook page: <https://fb.me/e/43miky0sT>

~ Sheila

Marché de Quartier
LOCAL, ABORDABLE, SOLIDAIRE
Neighbourhood Market
LOCAL, AFFORDABLE, SOLIDARITY

Des fruits et légumes de saison et provenant des fermes de l'Ouest-de-l'île!

Seasonal fruits and vegetables from West Island farms!

Stationnement de l'aréna Bob-Birnie, au coin de Maywood et Viburnum

Bob-Birnie Arena parking lot, on the corner of Maywood and Viburnum

16H - 18H30
4:00 - 6:30 PM

July 7 juillet
July 21 juillet
August 4 août
August 18 août
September 1 septembre
September 15 septembre
September 29 septembre
October 13 octobre

Nous acceptons l'argent comptant, les cartes de débit et crédit et la carte proximité.

We accept cash, debit transactions, credit cards and the carte proximité.

Des prix inclusifs pour tous!
Budget serré? Faites-le nous savoir.

Inclusive prices for all!
Tight budget? Let us know.

Apportez vos sacs!
Bring your own bags!

Pour plus d'information
For more information:
rivete@tqsoi.org
514-576-6645

Un projet de la
A project by
Table de Quartier Sud
and Centre sud de l'île

En collaboration avec
A collaboration with
Corbeille de Pain

Carte proximité,
un programme du
A program of



Avec le soutien financier
With the financial support of

Direction régionale de santé
publique de
Centre intégré universitaire de
santé et de services sociaux du
Centre-Sud de l'Île-de-Montréal

LESSONS OF A LIFETIME

When one has reached one's golden years
Survived such stress and strife,
What lessons can one leave behind
To guide a younger life?

One needs to have self-confidence
By small successes won
One needs to share, and to prepare
So, each task is well done.

One's social skills and aptitudes
Should be developed, too
To make sure that throughout one's life
There's so much one can do.

One's friendships should be saved like gold
But not imposed upon
For each new friend is often gained
By simply being one.

One must be kind, considerate
And somewhat modest too,
Stay honest in one's dealings
Use common sense all through.

Emotions, longings, appetites
Must always be controlled
For those who let them go unchecked
Don't live to join the old.

Alan W. C. Tustin, 14 Sept. 90
(Submitted by **Sheila** – her father's work)

BOOK SALE AT SUMMERLEA

SUMMERLEA is having a 3-day book sale on **July 8th, 9th and 10th from 10:00am until 2:00pm**, taking place in Acadia and St-Andrew's Halls, *entering by 220 Acadia*. A wide selection of slightly used adult books, children's books, magazines, old Sci-Fi pocket books and movie (DVDs) to choose from at bargain prices.

Summerlea United Church, 225, 50th Avenue, Lachine, Quebec. Tel # 514.634.2651.
Please wear your masks – safety precautions apply. ~ **Sheila**

LUUC POLLINATION GARDEN



We had eight people on May 23 and managed to plant all 20 pollination plants in front of the church in the planter box under the sign and in the boxes at the entrance near the door. We dug a small garden between the planter box and a recently planted tree. There is room for expansion in that area. The pollinator plants include Spurge, morning glory, Basil, Evening primrose, Tall white phlox, Siberian iris, bee balm, coreopsis, forget me nots, lungwort, periwinkle and purple phlox. We thought that we would dedicate the gardens to the memory of **Jean Merrifield** and **Peg Wooley**.

More plants are available next Saturday. We are planning to plant several flower beds and dedicate them to other Unitarians that have passed on in remembrance of their contribution to our congregation over the years,

We are also constructing a Wild Bee Hotel. If anyone wants to join please contact the Pollination Garden Group. **- Gary Spiller**

<https://www.pollinatorfriendly.org/events>

Flower list: spiderwort, golden alexander, coreopsis, butterfly milkweed, wild bergamot, purple coneflower, aster, hyssop, Echinacea, daisies, veronica

Coreopsis



White phlox



Coreopsis



Veronica

LITTLE LIBRARIES



Several years ago, I asked to meet with the Board because I had a brilliant idea. I wanted to install a Little Library on our church grounds – and I had several very good reasons for this:

1. I envisioned passers-by tarrying a while to look at the books – and at the same time noticing our LUUC sign;
2. There was a school opposite – and we needed more young people in our SE Program;
3. I volunteered at the NOVA book shop where most books are \$1.00 each and a mere 25c for children’s books – all very economical.

Alas, the Board did not see my logic nor did they think my brilliant idea was brilliant at all. In fact, they just about patted me on the head and told me to go home and be a good girl! So - home I went to think up another brilliant idea.

In the Gazette on June 17th, 2021 there was a long article on these Little Libraries that are springing up in all the local municipalities – a few are private, but most are under the auspices of the local Library. Why not install one on the LUUC Church grounds in Lachine, together with the memorial gardens for **Peg** and **Jean** and **Gary’s** delightful wild bee abode?

The Little Libraries can be made in any design – whatever the imagination dictates - the prettier or quirkier the better – and they must be water-proof. They are usually perched on a pole to be a convenient height for a child to reach.

~ ed



BOOK NOOK



***Original Sin* by P.D. James** 1994 [NOVEL] Well, if you are a fan of Commander Adam Dalgleish and would love to discover several suspicious deaths in a beautiful and elegant London setting, here's just the book for you. A great read if you ask me. But *if you prefer the hard-boiled style*, I also have a James Ellroy (*American Tabloid*) to unload; too hard (N-words and other slurs galore) for my taste, I gave up after the first chapter. [GIFT]

~ **Christopher Thomson**

The Dictionary of Lost Words, written by Pip Williams, is a semi-fictional account that will pique the interest of anyone who loves words, admires dictionaries, and is intrigued by the workings of life in England a couple of century digits back.

The book starts with a peaceful, dreamy, rather library feel, for the most part taking place in "the Scriptorium." There comes a gradual introduction to the old town of Oxford in various buildings of the University.

Then somewhere midway the tone changes, as the main character grows up, and daily life takes a turn to include more worldly matters.

This is where a history buff may enjoy seeing the book's cloistered sphere somewhat expanded. And here one can find a strong comparison with the modern morality of Western society in the author's take on the same ethical struggles of that bygone era.

Pip Williams. *The Dictionary of Lost Words* (2021, Ballantine Books: Random House Publishing Group). Available from the library.

~ **Shelly Bloomer**

ENGLISH MAGAZINES: I recently leafed through some English magazines – (NOVA bookshop for 25c a piece) – and found some of the ads to be most amusing. Did you know you can adopt a donkey for 3 pounds (\$5.16) a month? Of course, you don't actually have to look after the creature - you pay for it to spend its retirement munching on hay in Cornwall, England. (Oh! to be a donkey now that retirement is here!) Also, you can purchase a beautifully crafted hedgehog barn for 59 pounds (\$101.48) – and that's on special – or a frogilo – suitable accommodation for toads or frogs for 15 pounds (\$25.80) each – only in England!

~ **ed**

FROM THE TREASURER



At the annual general meeting on June 22, 2021, I presented my treasurer's report as well as the budget for the upcoming year. We ended the fiscal year 2020-21 in much a better financial position than expected considering the impact of the pandemic. If cannot find the report and would like a copy just send me an email at lakeshoretreasury@gmail.com or if you don't use email give me a call.

In early May I sent out an easily fillable form to all members asking for their 2021-2022 pledge and to volunteer for one of our committees. Many thanks to those of you who completed the form. For those of you who sent cheques or e transfers I completed the form on your behalf. A total of 19 have been returned so far.

Here is the link to the form

<https://forms.gle/BQKBD6tfEa2Xi7RX8>

If you have not yet returned it, could you please take a minute and fill it in? We realize that for many this pandemic year has meant some financial instability. If you are not able to commit financially at this time, could you volunteer for one of our committees? Volunteers are what keeps our congregation healthy in addition to your financial support. **Please consider continuing your financial contributions over the summer. Many of our expenses do not take a summer break!**

At the Annual Meeting the following resolution from the board was adopted.

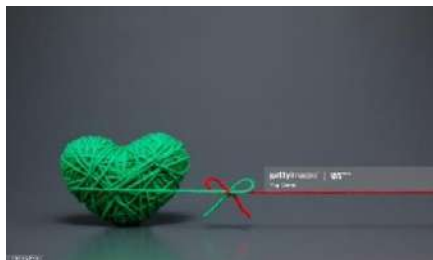
"To strike a committee to reflect and make recommendations to the membership of LUUC on the use of LAM invested funds to sustain and grow our congregation"

We look forward to a new year with lots of thoughtful recommendations from this committee.

Many thanks to **Gabor Matyas** for a thorough and helpful audit and to **Christopher Thomson** for his ongoing support.

~ Margaret Godbeer, Treasurer

THE KNIT CHICKS



Knitting has continued all winter – with meetings most Tuesday mornings on Zoom. Many items have been made – some for charity and others for our own enjoyment. We were very grateful to **Farlan** for donating to us a huge cache of yarn that **Mary Hunter** had accumulated over the years. It was a wonderful bonanza.

At the moment we are the only LUUC social group to meet on a regular basis. We are all ages, and a couple of members have been LUUCers since childhood. We were, therefore, very concerned when our 60-odd year tradition of holding a Christmas Bazaar was threatened by covid. As a group we could not allow that to happen, so helped to organize a food event aka the Bizarre Bazaar.

We plan to meet throughout the summer – in person - (regulations permitting) – outdoors on the lawn of the church grounds. We will enjoy seeing each other again – and look forward to sitting among the pollination beds dedicated to **Peg** and **Jean** and the delightful wild bee hive.

At our last meeting we briefly discussed the **8th Principal** – and generally felt this point is covered in the 1st and 2nd Principals - *The **inherent worth** and **dignity** of **every** person; and **Justice, equity** and **compassion** in human relations* – and look forward to reading **Susan's** article at the end of this newsletter.

~ ed

THIRSTY LIONS



With temperatures soaring around 40 degrees in Gujarat, India, the wardens at the Gir National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary have set up 450 artificial watering holes for thirsty animals.

Here are some of the residents enjoying a wee drink in one of the man-made ponds.

The Sanctuary is a major tourist attraction and is home to approximately 600 Asiatic lions.

~ ed

LOOKING BACK AS WE LOOK AHEAD

In doing my research on our Canadian Tapestry for the June 6 service, I found a couple of items worth looking at, and reflecting on now.

WHO ARE WE? WHAT IS OUR FAITH?

The November 8, 1979 issue of the News & Chronicle (West Island weekly newspaper) had a 2 page feature on "Unitarian Church: philosophy or religion?" which had a photo of **Ellie Tyndale, Myrna Wood** and I holding the completed Canadian Tapestry.

The article began with the quote by George N. Marshall, writer on liberal religion: "We have chosen to turn from being followers to being discoverers of meaningful values, from being acceptors to being creators. We would change religion from a hand-me-down religious rite to something that becomes personal and meaningful, as it is personally re-created by each person individually."

Later in the article, **Rev. Charles Eddis** is quoted from a service he gave at Lakeshore Unitarian Church as saying, "Freedom of belief is not a license for religious anarchy or irresponsibility. It is not a franchise for wishful thinking." He called it "free intellectual inquiry" a method by which an individual's on-going search for personal truth is conducted in a rational way."

HOW DO WE LEARN?

In the October 17, 1980 issue of our Lakeshore Unitarian Newsletter, Sunday Services Committee chairperson **Pat Bird** reported on a previous service:

"It was a real pleasure to notice how many came out to hear Betty Brisebois talk about Mohawk World View. It is a philosophy very compatible with Unitarian principles because of the emphasis on the present life with its values rather than transcendental things. Betty suggests that one can approach understanding another culture by looking at its creation story. She told the Mohawk-Iroquois legend - a complicated one - with side comments and explanations.

During the discussion period, Betty enlarged on many of the political issues she had touched on in giving the creation story. She doesn't pretend to be able to turn back the clock to return to the Indian people their old way of life, but she insists on the worth of the traditional value system."

I think the words of George N. Marshall, Rev Charles Eddis, and Betty Brisebois are still timely and worthy of reflection during this summer of 2021.....

~ **Sheila Laursen**

ALL RACES EQUITY

ARE Panel congregants and a handful of guests have filled the past four seasons—yes, since July 2020! – with enlightening subjects and empathetic discussions.

Thank you to **Sam Lustig** and to **Talia Sanchez** for creating this discussion panel!

From Black Lives Matter to Indigenous Solidarity to pandemic related anti-Asian racism, each of our panelists has opened themselves up to feel what it might be like to "step into another one's shoes". It is, indeed, a humbling "mile to walk". Good Unitarian Universalists, it feels as though we have many more miles to go.

For You, Dear Newsletter Reader —

Here are a few items of contemplation for the months of JUNE/JULY:

A concise **CBC NEWS survey article** was shared along with an excellent **Global News feature** was viewed, followed by a poignant q&a session led by Talia on Asian hate in Canada: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2904Wf-ShSI>

Surveys find more than 1,000 self-reported incidents of anti-Asian racism since start of pandemic: report | CBC News
<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/asian-racism-hate-canada-pandemic-1.5959788>

On Monday, June 21st, **National Aboriginal Day**, the ARE panel joined up with another group that also feels strongly about Truth & Reconciliation: the Anglican Church of Canada.

We watched their award-winning, 60-minute film, *The **Doctrine of Discovery: Stolen Lands, Strong Hearts***. Highly recommended viewing for all UUs:
<https://www.anglican.ca/primate/tfc/drj/doctrineofdiscovery/>

Shared by **Sheila**, this **Montreal Gazette article** delivers blunt words for profound contemplation:
<https://montrealgazette.com/news/local-news/nicolas-10-easy-ways-to-keep-systemic-racism-going>

Lastly, a little video created by some determined women out west is more lighthearted yet still brewing with passion! Here are the **Rapping Grannies of San Francisco**:
<https://abc7news.com/society/sf-rapping-grannies-dis-asian-hate-in-new-song-hit-hit-hit/10710051/>

Happy to have shared all of this wealth of information with you over the past year!

Wishing each one of you a restorative summer.

Selina Ann Rooker & Talia Sanchez-Rooker

REV. CHARLES EDDIS

The following is extracted from an official biography of Rev. Charles Eddis – highlighting various achievements he was involved with/initiated while at LUUC and MUC.

... “In 1958, he moved to Pointe Claire, a suburb of Montreal, Quebec, to help a new group of Unitarians meeting there become a full-fledged independent church. His happiest and saddest years were as minister of the **Lakeshore Unitarian Church** from 1958-1966. He saw the congregation grow from a fellowship to a strong church with a much enlarged and modernized building. It was a large, close-knit community, with a booming religious education program, significant public forums and social events. Many in the congregation were of an age similar to his own. The saddest event was the sudden infant death of his and Nancy’s first child, Pamela. A dining room in an orphanage in India was made in her memory through the Unitarian Service Committee (USC). Charles had been working with Dr. Lotta Hitschmanova of the USC, setting up her local visits beginning in 1953 and continued doing so until the mid-1970’s.

He was active in the Bicultural Association which met at the **Lakeshore Unitarian Church** with a group of French Canadians from Montreal east end to share and compare histories and differences. This made Charles feel completely at home in Quebec for the first time.

Charles was invited to join a committee to form a conference of Ontario and Quebec congregations. He quickly saw that an intermediary step to create a national body was superfluous. He proposed the immediate formation of the Canadian Unitarian Council, and was its first president from 1961-1964...

... Charles returned to Canada in 1977 to serve the Unitarian church he first entered decades earlier while in naval uniform: the Unitarian Church of Montreal, formerly known as The Church of the Messiah. Dispirited by the mass exodus of members to Toronto in those heady days of the ascendancy of the French language and politics, he kept the church on a steady course that held hope. He joined in the Greater Montreal Unitarian congregations’ submission to the Royal Commission on Biculturalism and Bilingualism.

In greater Montreal he was active in the peace movement, concerned about nuclear weapons in Canada, the hydrogen bomb, and nuclear testing. This work included leading Project Ploughshares Montreal local group, convening and chairing the Montreal Disarmament Committee which hired and filled 32 busloads of demonstrators for the United Nations Second Special Session on Disarmament in 1982.”

Archival Material: His sermons & other writings are housed in the Harvard University Archives.
~ **Submitted by Sheila**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Report and Comment on the first CUC Round Table Discussion of the Eighth Principle: 2021 June 26

Much of the motivation behind the framing of an Eighth Principle comes from the results of a survey of Canadian UU congregations carried out by the Dismantling Racism Study Group in the spring of 2020. The Study Group concluded that this survey exposed a “gap” between who UU’s say we are (our UU principles and aspirations) and the non-diverse character of our congregations.

In response to this conclusion, the Study Group recommended that the CUC Adopt the 8th principle to sensitize us to the need to explore the structures of white privilege that we move within. The aim is to trigger actions that expose and readjust those structures of privilege. These structures normalize prejudice and discrimination in our local communities: the myths and fears that operate decade after decade to crimp opportunity and inhibit the full participation of “the not like us.”

The first CUC-wide unofficial discussions of the Eighth Principle since the procedural error at the AGM was a ZOOM Roundtable Session held on June 26. These will continue to be held on the last Saturday of the month until October and are open to any interested UU.

The first question raised was “Is an Eighth Principle necessary?”

Many of those UU’s supporting adding an Eighth Principle were quoting the reactions of their BIPOC members [Black, Indigenous, People Of Color] who see this moment as testing whether UU’s can step-up. Are we ready to make bold statements and take action to ‘de-normalize’ prejudice, and support push-back against discriminatory behavior?

Members in the ‘age 35 and under’ cohort also indicated that it is crucial that UU congregations vote to endorse the Eighth Principle. Many of them have already been participating in BLM-actions with their colleagues. For them to continue as a UUs, it is essential that members of their faith community show willingness to leave their personal comfort zone and recognize that ‘white privilege’ is the water that we swim in.

For these two groups, acceptance of the Eighth Principle is definitely necessary. The outcome of the CUC vote will determine whether they and their colleagues stay on as Unitarians.

As I listened to the discussion, my impression was, that for a large number of those present, the debate about whether the demands of the Eighth Principle are subsumed in the other 7 principles, or whether the words as written, do or do not constitute a principle, is beside the point. The focus must be on the impact on the Unitarian-Universalist

movement of NOT approving it: on the negative impact it will have on our credibility as social justice partners.

Careful wordings and correct procedures play a role in good governance, but the impact that is important in this case is the impact on those whose lives have been affected and are still being affected by the distortions of historic discrimination –and who are looking to us to stand, at this time of reawakening ferment, with them in their struggle for justice. It is an argument which contends that the Eighth Principle is needed to inspire us in this moment, to recharge the UU Civil Rights leadership of the past, and actually undertake current actions that help dismantle the barriers that our privilege has erected.

I am very gratified and proud that one of our 'under 35's', Talia Sanchez initiated a local campaign supporting Black Lives Matter which has grown into CARE, a moderated discussion among LUUC members and friends.

I am placing all the CUC materials and discussion on the Eighth Principle, as well as our local comments and reactions on our LUUC Blog. You may go there to comment on this article or any other aspect of the Eighth Principle Adoption process.

~ Susan



Purple coneflower
(echinacea)

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OUR WEB-SITE: www.LUUC.org

**ENJOY A HEALTHY AND HAPPY SUMMER
 AND STAY SAFE**



Bergamot, (bee balm)