

LAKESHORE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION
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514 - 637- 6974



SEPTEMBER 2021 NEWSLETTER

The Sunday Services Committee had hoped to organize in-church services for the month of September, but that is still not possible. So, we begin our new church year with Zoom-only services this month, while our technical teams work to prepare for hybrid services which will then offer us a choice of how to attend on Sundays.

LIVING OUR UU PRINCIPLES AND VALUES

and

LEARNING FROM FIRST NATIONS

We continue to find inspiration for Sunday services from the UUA'S monthly Worship Themes. For September, the worship themes are *Embracing Possibility, and Reason*.

Throughout this year, we will also try to reflect the seven sacred teachings in Indigenous culture: *truth, honesty, courage, respect, wisdom, humility and love*.

We hope you will find these themes reflected in our Sunday Services.

~ **Sheila Laursen**

September 12, 2021 - 10:30 a.m.

**'BUILDING BACK BETTER' - HERE WE GO
 AGAIN! - LUUC Members**

It's a new 'church year' – but the 'same old pandemic' is still hanging around. So, we dedicate this, our opening service, to gathering our strength and renewing our will to meet this continuing challenge with steadfastness and equilibrium.

Several members will share their joys and sorrows of living with the pandemic thus far: the challenges and opportunities they experienced. We will focus on our hopes for the future, building on lessons learned, with perhaps more wisdom and resilience than we had 18 months ago.

Service leader – Susan Czarnocki
Greeters - Shelly Bloomer & Nancy Schmidt - Joys and Concerns: Shelly B.
Musicians – Kerry-Anne Kutz & Mike Cartile
Zoom host – Christopher Thomson

September 19, 2021 - 10:30 a.m.

LISTENING TO THE HEART
Christopher Thomson

In May this year (2021), Serge Bouchard, Québec's celebrated anthropologist and broadcaster, keen observer of the human heart in many places, passed away suddenly at the young age of 73. I am an unabashed fan of this man and his humanism and wish in this service to tell a bit of his story, which represents the very best of what our Québec society offers in terms of values and care.

Well known for his researches on the Innu [formerly Montagnais] nation and the world of long-distance truckers, Serge brought his caring heart and insights also to the details that make up our everyday lives. His warm voice and his love for our common humanity will be sorely missed.

Service leader – Paul Sullivan
Greeters - Shelly Bloomer & Nancy Schmidt. Joys and Concerns: Shelly B.
Musicians – Kerry-Anne Kutz & Mike Cartile
Zoom host – Margaret Godbeer

September 26, 2021 - 10:30 a.m.

REVISITING OLD TRUTHS
Rev. Linda Thompson

It is wonderful to welcome Rev. Linda Thompson back to LUUC. She has been known to many of us over the years she has served as Congregational Life Lead for the Central and Eastern regions of the Canadian Unitarian Council. Here is how Linda describes this service:

“Like many of people I’ve left lessons from my childhood behind me. I suspect many of them will stay in the past, but more frequently I find myself discovering wisdom in old understandings. Join with me as we consider if some abandoned beliefs are worth another look.”

Service leader – Sheila Laursen
Greeters - Dori Abbott & Nancy Schmidt. Joys and Concerns: Nancy S.
Musicians – Kerry-Anne Kutz & Mike Cartile
Zoom host – Margaret Godbeer

HAPPY, HAPPY S.E. NEWS

We are excited to announce that our spiritual exploration (SE) program is likely to return this fall, pending Covid guidelines. Many families have expressed interest in returning in person every second week. We are also happy to announce that **Erin Wooley-Berry** will be returning as the SE Program Director. Looking forward to a great year! – **Caitlin Berry**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Covid-19 dumped us into the Sea of Technology. With in-person services verboten, video-conferencing technology provided a way to hold services on-line. But would it actually satisfy our need for a soulful experience? Not at all certain of what might be the result, with strong leadership from Christopher, Margaret and Gary, we gave it a try. Positively impressed with our trial run, we pushed ahead. Gary in particular worked to find ways to get as many of our members 'zooming' as possible.

We realized that suddenly we could be reached from the '4 corners' of the internet. COVID pain and disruption was being transformed into a whole new world of possibilities through reaching out across the continent. We suddenly faced a rather unexpected question: Do we lose all these possibilities if we return to face-to-face services?

We weren't the only ones asking that question. We became aware that many experiments were going on to generate what is being referred to as a hybrid-service. The question became: Is it possible, with the right equipment and a high-speed internet connection to live-stream an in-person service to persons at home, watching on their home computers? Reports about sound and picture quality are highly variable, but several congregations have established 'proof-of-concept'.

Gary and Margaret have been spending many hours this summer studying and experimenting. As luck would have it, our landlords are once again helping us reach our goal. They are also, it turns out, interested in being able to stream services, in order to reach their widely spread-out membership. They are installing high speed internet, and an excellent quality camera in the Sanctuary. Also, Oddbjorn Taraldsvick, a former Board President has volunteered to help us design and test a live-streaming system.

There remains one last aspect of this process that is completely up to us: on one hand, ensuring that those who are eager to attend face-to-face services will be safe and comfortable, and on the other hand, recognizing that our first attempts at live-streaming will be 'experimental' and give ourselves time and space to learn from mistakes. We have already sent out a small questionnaire to get your help in achieving these aspirations. We are grateful for your responses!

For the month of September, we will be continuing on Zoom, hoping to be 'hybrid' for October 3
~ **Susan**

THE THINGS WE DID LAST SUMMER...

...We'll remember all winter long

THE PICNIC on July 4th was very special this year. Not only was it the first opportunity for us to be together and see each other 'in the flesh' – but also to dedicate one of the Pollination Gardens in **Peg Wooley's** Memory. Masked and distanced – we all wanted to hug, but restrained ourselves. The picnic was a happy, relaxed event – with joyous conversations and much laughter all around. Many thanks go to **Gary** for organizing it – he was the perfect host.

Caitlin, Erin, Gabor, Susan, Sheila, and **Moi** all spoke glowingly of **Peg** and of her myriad contributions to LUUC. We miss her presence mightily. I'm pleased to report that her Garden is abundantly healthy – and as I write, the phlox and coreopsis are thriving and in full bloom. We ended the afternoon with **Kerry-Anne** and **Michael** playing - we went all *Vera Lynn* and finished by signing "*We'll Meet Again*". I loved it!

~ ed

Margaret Godbeer took a video of the event, sent it to **Christine Wooley** in NB – and her reply follows:

Good Morning Everyone,

What a wonderful dedication you all did for my family about my Mom. I was very touched by it and have come to realize what a special group of people you all are. All the remembrances were heart-felt and brought back memories I had forgotten, such as the cosmos seeds and secret pals and other seeds my Mom planted at LUUC.

I know how busy everyone is, so to have taken the time to put the picnic and talk together is so amazing and appreciated. I know my girls were very moved by it, as was I being able to see the recording thanks to **Margaret**.

I wish you all the best summer and let's hope this pandemic ends soon.

**Take care everyone,
Christine**

POLLINATION GARDENS REPORT: Our pollination gardens at the church have been growing well and many bees and other pollinators were observed benefiting from them.

Sunflowers dominated the front garden in August and the squirrels got their share. Our project is part of a network of pollination gardens across Montreal Island. - **Gary**



BIRDWATCHING: Two birdwatching events were organized. The first was a picnic in Lasalle next to the Bird Sanctuary there on July 10. After a great meal our group walked the trail to the Lachine Rapids where we observed several cormorants and terns diving for fish.

The second birdwatching trip started with a visit to Fairview Forest on July 17 where we observed many wildflowers on the edge of the forest and waved at the cars who drove by honking indicator support to save the forest.

We then drove to the Green Heron Swamp at Techoparc where **Selina Rooker-Sanchez** recorded more than 15 species including a red shouldered hawk being chased by over 50 starlings, cedar waxwings, kingbirds, thrushes, woodpeckers (shown), ducks, egrets and herons. Our LUUC group was fortunate that we visited the swamp in July before it drained in August. A sinkhole formed on the west side of the swamp in August during the construction of a tunnel under the swamp to the airport. Most of the water drained out and the birds have found food on nearby ponds, Hopefully the sinkhole will be blocked so water and the birds can return next year.

~ **Gary Spiller**



KNIT CHICKS - We natter and chatter – while the needles click and clatter! Our **LUUC knitters** have met every Tuesday morning throughout the summer, mostly on Zoom, and twice outside LUUC on nice sunny days. We're working on all kinds of beautiful projects. Some of us are making Fiddle Blankets for people with dementia, which we'll donate to a residence this fall.

– **Nancy Schmidt**

CANOEING - **Sari Kelen** and **Gary** went canoeing at Vaudreuil as part of the Service Auction offered by Gary. Sari is shown enjoying the delicious lunch catered by Ofie.



TEAS IN THE SCHMIDT GARDEN: Two groups of LUUCers attended Tea in the Garden at the Schmidt house. On the menu were strawberry crumble and strawberry ice cream (both homemade) and, for our vegan/gluten-free diners, there was lemon sorbet and a chocolate soy mousse cake. Lovely to be together in a garden, chatting and watching birdies at the feeder. 😊

- **Nancy Schmidt**



l-r: Hostess Nancy, Hélène, Kerry-Anne, Traci, Jose, Nirupam, Susan, Sari, Margaret and Gary

ALSO – a Tour of Nancy and John’s Garden [Schmidt Garden 2021 \(jalbum.net\)](http://Schmidt Garden 2021 (jalbum.net))

SUSAN’S BBQ - Rachel Parsons was among those of us attending Susan Czarnocki’s BBQ at the end of July, with Chef Stuart Forbes’ grilled delicacies, and LOTS of fresh corn on the cob on the menu! John Foulds was able to attend and we had some good conversations.

~ **Sheila**

ANIMAL FRIENDS 🐾

We invite you to view photos below from our all-ages excursion to Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue's ECOMUSEUM! 🐸. As the morning's fresh drizzle petered out, accompanied by birdsong carried on cool breezes, thirteen of us began our nature stroll through the Ecomuseum's tranquil habitats. 🌿

We observed and learned about a multitude of provincial wildlife, including the mysterious Pine Marten, the sphinx-like Lynx, funny frogs, wonderful waterfowl, and regal eagles. 🦉 This invigorating visit concluded with some of us attending an amazing raptor 🦉 info lesson while other folks were keen on enjoying snacks and lunch in a newly opened picnic "oasis" area. 🌸

On this particular Saturday, our rain date of July 3rd, most S.E. kids were already away on family vacation – and we missed you guys! 🍄🍄🍄🍄🍄. **Emalyn** was gifted the eco-prize bag that day, which she wholeheartedly agreed to share with her brother, **Henry**. Also, "Joey" Henry and his secret pen-pal "Mrs. Wallaby" were able to see each other! LUUC's S.E. Youth group has now been entered in a seasonal prize draw that gifts an organized group a tour of the Ecomuseum this fall. 🐾 Let's keep our fingers crossed that we may revisit this hors de commun animal sanctuary soon. 🍀

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



Lynx



Turtle



Annelise with Emalyn
And her eco prize bag

NATALIE'S BBQ – **Monica, Karli and Maverik Warren** came from Hawkesbury to **Nat's BBQ** and everyone was happy to see them again. **Jessica Burpee** and **Shawn Dohring** also attended, and with **Gary Spiller** got us singing, especially Happy Birthday to **Gabor Matyas** and **Susan Cz.**
~ **Sheila**

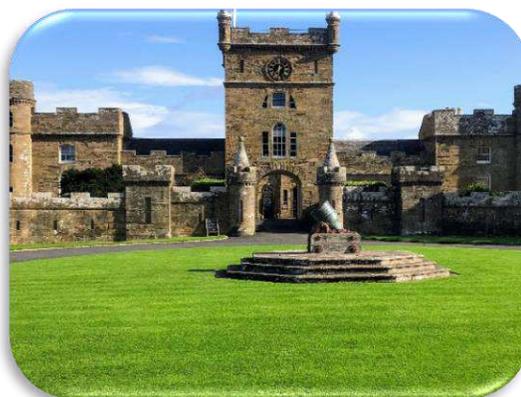
EVENING IN SCOTLAND Finally, after a one-year delay, nine of us were able to join **Christopher** and **Margaret** in the church hall (safely distanced of course) and enjoy a relaxing evening journey through the lowlands, midlands and highlands of Scotland. Margaret provided a PowerPoint presentation of her tour of Scotland in October 2019.

We sipped on some single malt Scotch and nibbled on crisps and enjoyed Christopher's Scottish accent while viewing castles, abbeys and beautiful scenery.

It was so nice to see everyone in person after a very long winter and spring on Zoom. An enjoyable time was had by all. - **Margaret**



Melrose Abbey



Culzean Castle

KERRY-ANNE and MICHAEL'S Service Auction offer of a day at their Lake MacDonald cottage drew several LUUCers and some members of the Lakeshore Community Choir for a delicious luncheon, swimming, canoeing, kayaking and joyful group singing!

Gary is shown giving **Susan Cz.** a canoeing lesson.

(photo by **Sari**).



PICNIC, MAGIC SHOW AND DEDICATION - Our latest LUUC get-together before the start of the new church year was a Magic Show, picnic and the dedication of **Jean Merrifield's** Memorial Garden – all held at our church building in Lachine on August 29th.

Captain Courageous/Canada/Chemical/Catalyst/ - aka - **Steve** - experimented with ordinary kitchen items, such as vinegar, soap, baking soda, lemon juice, and by mixing some elements together, he miraculously changed the colour of water and even made it bubble up over the rim of the glass and spill onto the floor. Lovely mess! For the physics part of the show, he had toys that made coins disappear into a vortex like steam from a kettle, and illusions that seemed to levitate a toy pig. The children were very intrigued with these toys and examined them closely.

Gary then presented a slide show on bees – and we learned that bumblebees are wild bees and like all other wild bees, live under ground. They produce wax and enough honey for themselves. The honey bee, on the other hand also produces wax to make his home, and an abundance of honey. A bee can visit as many as 2,000 flowers a day, gathering nectar - and hummingbirds are attracted to red flowers. There are thousands of different types of bees – and over 4,000 species reside in Quebec alone. Their favourite fall flower is the common aster – a purple wild flower. The whole show was lots of fun, enjoyed by the young and the not so young.

The picnic was indoors due to the rainy weather. **Rob Lutes** played three of his special songs, while people ate. A young violist – Jean Rochefort - thrilled everyone with his music. Jean, who is going to Paris, France later this week, played some Mozart, Sibelius – Jose was particularly charmed by this piece - and Bach. Such a wonderful treat!

The dedication to **Jean's Memorial Garden** was also held indoors – and Gary showed a couple of videos of **Jean** and her famous skits - about the *bathing suit* and the *teeth* – hilarious! **Jean Merrifield's** family was in attendance and thanked LUUC for their many kindnesses towards **Jean**. It was good to see **Chris Bassett** and **Gabriel** after such a long time. Many thanks to **Gary** for arranging this whole magic show, picnic, dedication and the wonderful music. ~ ed



UNSUNG HEROINE DOES TIME IN A DUNGEON



It seems that **Sheila Laursen** spent her summer in the dungeon – self-imposed apparently – but nevertheless deep down in the depths of the church. I asked her if she had taken up permanent residence there – and she replied:

“Not any more! All the boxes are out of there, have been re-topped (mice made their homes on the tops it seems) and they will soon be stored in an upper level of the new cupboards built by the Norwegians. A few things to get out of the dungeon still - a big plastic container of Xmas decorations and costumes I think - and 3 small but heavy plastic containers of our old LUUC cutlery - destined to fill NOVA's cutlery bins. Also, a box of old, old, old hymn books (too heavy for me to lift) that will sadly have to be mostly sent to book 'heaven' with a few being spared for posterity....” **- ed**

WHO DOES WHAT ON THE LUUC BOARD

Susan Czarnocki - for Denominational Affairs, Lay Chaplains Committee, Liaison with the Norwegian Association of Montreal (NAM), and Long-Range Planning

Gary Spiller - for Property, Publicity, Re-opening Safely & Tech Support, and Social Justice Committee

Margaret Godbeer - for Communications, Investment Income Use, Knit & Chat Group, Mutual Aid Fund, Responsible Membership Committee, LUUC Treasury and Stewardship\Annual Canvass

Sheila Laursen - for Adult Education, Caring Committee, Sunday Greeters, and Sunday Services Committee

Selina Rooker - for Fundraising, and Membership Committee

Caitlin Berry - for Spiritual Explorations Committee

~ **Sheila**

BINDMAN MUTUAL AID FUND

William Bindman, president from 1962 to 1964, started the **Mutual Aid Fund** with a donation of \$500 and named it Mutual Aid Fund in memory of his father, Carl Bindman. At the Annual General Meeting in 2017 it was decided to consolidate the Bindman, Minister's Discretionary and Caring funds into one fund and call it the **Bindman Mutual Aid Fund**. Its purpose is to provide emergency money to any member in need. The money is lent on an interest-free basis. There is currently approximately \$3,400 in this fund.

A three-person committee reviews any requests. This year the committee members are **Susan Czarnocki, Caitlin Berry** and **Margaret Godbeer**. Any requests to access this fund or for more information should be addressed to **Margaret Godbeer** at lakeshoretreasury@gmail.com All requests and approved loans are strictly confidential.

~ Margaret Godbeer, Treasurer

INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

An investment committee was formed at the AGM and held two meetings one in July and one in August with **Gabor** as the chair. We discussed various options to utilize our funds for social and humanitarian good. A Long-Range Planning Committee was established to continue the work of strategic planning and effective use of the budget. It was suggested that once a plan was in place more members may wish to include a legacy to LUUC in their wills.

~ Gary

PLEASE ALTER YOUR DIRECTORIES

- **Hélène Cimon Auer** is moving to a new and smaller apartment in Le Cambridge on September 2nd. Her address will then be **Apt 235, 340 Hymus Blvd, Pointe Claire, QC, H9R 6B3**. Hélène's phone number remains the same. Her email address is: heleneCimonauer@icloud.com
- **Rev. Dr. Heather Fraser Fawcett** has moved to The Wellesley in Pointe Claire. Her new address is **230 Hymus Blvd, Apt. 215, Pointe-Claire, QC H9R 5P5**. Heather's phone number and email address remain the same.
- **John Foulds** is now residing in the Ambiance in Verdun. His address is **50 Place du Commerce, Apt 306, Verdun, QC H3E 2C3**
- **Rachel Parsons** also moved. Her new address is **2577 Terrasse Emile Pelletier, Lachine, QC, H8S 4H8**
- Sheila

HAITI - HIT AGAIN, AND AGAIN, AND AGAIN!



On Saturday, August 14, 2021, a powerful 7.2 magnitude earthquake shook Haiti, killing more than 2,000 people. Two days later, Hurricane Grace hit the country.

In May of 2005, I was in Port-au-Prince, Haiti for the official opening of the YMCA of Haiti, after years of hard work by volunteers, with the guidance and

support of the YMCAs of Quebec.

As Director of the YMCAs of Quebec's International Programs, I was both proud and humbled to be part of that achievement, and our new international partnership with that YMCA. Since then, the YMCA of Haiti has strengthened and grown, to serve.

The YMCA of Haiti had two buildings in Camp-Perrin which were destroyed. The school where they were going to start a kindergarten in September is now structurally cracked and unstable. The YMCA Community Centre has also collapsed, and most of the furniture, equipment, books and computers have been destroyed.

The YMCA Haiti team urgently needs funds to reach out to 5000 affected people in Camp Perrin. They will collect and distribute first aid items such as cloth masks, gloves, alcohol, hydro-alcohol gel, soaps, tarps, tents, mattresses, sheets, wool blankets and clothing items, women's hygiene items, solar lamps, torches and batteries. They also aim to provide dry food rations, food kits and drinking water.

YMCA Haiti has launched a three-step response to this disaster. The aim is

- to provide assistance and support in the short term to the affected population in Camp-Perrin
- to rebuild the YMCA Community Centre in Camp-Perrin
- to help those in need.

If you would like to support the YMCA of Haiti's Emergency Appeal with a donation, please contact The YMCA of Quebec Foundation:

- 514 849-5331, ext. 1239 or by email fondation@ymcaquebec.org

~ **Sheila Laursen**

A WORD FROM OUR CHAPLAINS



KERRY-ANNE KUTZ SAYS: I do have a wedding coming up on September 4th and have been singing for many funerals throughout the summer. Not much to report in terms of chaplaincy other than I would really like to hold a workshop for our congregation which would involve writing about our own lives and those aspects that we feel have been most important to us through our lifetimes.

As chaplains, when we prepare funeral services, we ask questions of loved ones who often don't know a great deal about the deceased person's past. Everyone has a story to tell, made up of significant milestones, joys, loss and even the philosophy that she or he chose to live by. If those we leave behind don't know of these facets about our past and the way we saw things then we are not truly remembered or reflected. I would love for each of us to sit down and write answers to several suggested questions about ourselves. These reflections are not meant to be shared with each other or as part of a Sunday service. Rather they're meant as a personal reflection for our families and friends.

(PS: As a retired lay-chaplain, I completely agree with this suggestion – for me, the hardest part of a funeral was to compose a meaningful and fitting eulogy that captured the essence of the deceased. ~ *ed*).

PAUL SULLIVAN SAYS - After this long time of having our Sunday morning services via some electronic device (Zoom) our tech committee has been hard at work creating a type of hybrid service where we would eventually meet together in person as well as offering the opportunity to others to continue attending from home. This, of course, has its advantages as well as its drawbacks. The essence of our church community, after all is said and done, is the manner in which we worship together. This is the genuine expression of our faith that we share as Unitarian Universalists.

Some adherents might find the word worship in a modern liberal setting as a bit awkward and be put off with the use of that word as it might denote a form of subjugation, a time for the congregants to be quiet, shut off their thinking devices and be guided through a time of “just let the captain and crew fly the plane”.

The word worship derives from the Anglo-Saxon wearship....celebrating that which is of worth. The word religion comes from the Latin....religare, and means to bind together. The form of this religious worship is called liturgy from the Greek words Laos (people) and ergos meaning work, literally “the people’s work”. My contention here is that in order for us to do this important work of the people we must make every effort to get back into our physical meeting place so that we might worship together and fulfill our aspirations to form community and carry out the work it requires.

In the words of the Rev. Richard S Gilbert who spoke to us last year.....“ that worship may move us to reconstruct our experiences and raise up the symbol of loftiest ideals”

WHAT HAS YOUR BOARD BEEN UP TO???



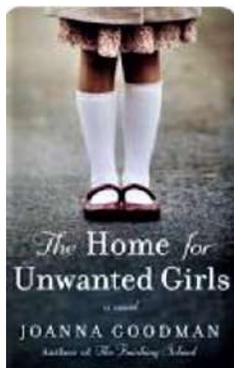
This summer has been a busy one for the LUUC Board, as we had to empty our storage space, aptly named “The Dungeon” and sort through its many boxes of LUUC archives, Christmas decorations and costumes, many discarded books and UU hymnals, banners, framed pictures, RE curricula and even old cutlery!

Thanks to the efforts of **Paul, Susan, Gary, Margaret, Selina, Caitlin, Nathalie** and **me**, we have sorted through it all - much was discarded, donated or recycled and the “must keep” boxes are now stored in the wonderful cupboards the Norwegians had built during the pandemic.

Committees have been working too - to plan Sunday services and SE programs for the fall, to reach out to those of us needing support and caring in tough times, to help us gather safely and joyfully in the summer months, and to do all the research and acquisitions necessary for developing hybrid services. The Norwegian Association has been not only helpful, but is working with us to face those technical challenges.

~ **Sheila**

BOOK REVIEW



The Home for Unwanted...
2018



The Forgotten Daughter: Th...
2020

Two books that I read this spring and summer are by Joanna Goodman who is a Canadian author, born in Montreal and currently living in Toronto.

The Home for Unwanted Girls is set in the eastern townships in the 1950's. When 15-year-old Maggie finds herself pregnant her English Canadian father forces her to go to a Catholic home for Unwed mothers without telling her French-Canadian boyfriend and to give up her daughter Elodie for adoption. Elodie is raised in an orphanage during the Duplessis era when orphanages were converted into psychiatric hospitals to get extra government funding.

The Forgotten Daughter is the sequel where Maggie and Elodie continue to mend their relationship. It is set in the 1990's and Elodie's half-brother falls in love with the daughter of a convicted FLQ terrorist while Elodie becomes involved with a coalition demanding justice and reparation for their institutionalization under the Duplessis government.

~ **Margaret**

CARING CORNER



Dori Abbott reports that the **Caring Committee** was active making phone calls and sending cards during the summer. I was the grateful recipient of some of those cards. I want to thank you all - particularly **Dori**, the **Knit Chicks** and **Sheila** - for your phone calls, flowers and words of encouragement during my recent health scare.

I don't recommend spending your summer vacation at Lakeshore – and it will be the back end of never before I try it again. Next time, I'll buy a bucket and spade and spend my time making sandcastles on a sunny beach in Spain.

On one of my 'low' days, I had an e-mail from **Monique Riedel** saying that she would make me the *best lemon loaf* she had ever made (Service Auction offer.) And she did! She arrived at my door with **Simone**, whose lovely face was bright with smiles – and handed me this fabulous lemon loaf – more than delicious! It was so heartwarming to see them both, brimming with health - and **Simone's** happy smile lit up my day. Sincere thanks to you both.

I had a heart-warming phone call from **Catherine Forbes** – and I'm happy to say she has a wonderful new job – permanent – in her chosen field. She's busy, busy, busy – but likes it that way. And her talented daughters, **Bella** and **Olivia** are doing well in their studies. It was so uplifting to get good news – with this old world of ours in such a terrible state.
~ **Heather**

We are sad to report that Jeffrey Read, second child of **Lois and Clift Read** died recently at aged 69. Many years ago, he attended our church school. For more information go to: <https://montrealgazette.remembering.ca/obituary/jeffrey-read-1083017805> ~ **ed**

GUESS WHO

**We know a smart man in Lachine
Who's nice and concise and supreme.**

**He travels along
On a wing and a song,**

Singing "Scotland the Brave" - he's that keen.

If you e-mail me the answer – I'll know you have read my newsletter! - ed

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE REPORT

There was no SAC meeting this summer but several members responded to the appeal to support women's education in Afghanistan after the Taliban assumed power.

Here is a worthwhile charity that would benefit from our support at this time: Ms. Pashtana Durrani, a teacher and founder and executive director of LEARN Afghanistan, a charity focused on education. She is committed to staying in Khandahar and educating girls there.

<https://www.npr.org/2021/08/16/1028016109/with-the-talibans-return-to-power-will-afghan-girls-keep-going-to-school>

https://www.gofundme.com/f/learn-afg-donations?utm_medium=email&utm_source=product&utm_campaign=p_email%2B2300-co-team-welcome

<https://www.pbs.org/newshour/show/as-afghan-women-see-shrinking-public-spaces-one-activist-reveals-how-the-world-can-help>

Susan and **I** were very moved by the NPR and CBC interviews referenced above. We both offered to donate \$200 each to support this brave woman in Khandahar through the SAC to match the \$200 donation from Social Action budget approved by the Board on August 17. We are currently conducting a due diligence on Learn-afg to make sure the funds go to support Ms. Durrani's school.

Sheila suggested that in future we allocate a certain percent of the budget for international causes, and another percent for local ones as well as a portion on organizations for children, or women, or for peace, or for environmental issues.

We could also allocate a certain amount to respond to appeals or issues that arise - again to be determined by need, urgency, and our overall percent allocations.

Please send us your comments and suggestions on how we can use our social action budget which is currently growing as we leverage donations.

~ **Gary**

“On bended knee is no way to be free”

~ **Peter de Vries – recently slain Dutch crime reporter**

EQUITY PANEL NEWS

Expanding cultural and racial empathy

Do you care about fostering understanding and building bridges of reparation between peoples? Welcome to **C.A.R.E.**, LUUC's own **Circle of All Races Equity** roundtable.

C.A.R.E.'s aim is to support LUUC members in their quest to confront and dismantle systemic racism and white supremacy culture, within their lives and throughout their communities. Once a month, **Talia Sanchez-Rooker** and **Selina Rooker** will lead a one-hour session on race equity relations. Your participation and contributions are vital to advance racial and cultural justice at a time ripe for progress.

Beloved community healing happens one person at a time. "Reconciliation is not about being a spectator". Senator Murray Sinclair. C.A.R.E. participants are invited to zoom-meet on the 2nd Sunday of the month, from 8 to 9pm, until the end of 2021 (four meetings total, for now).

In preparation for our first roundtable on September 12th, please, watch in advance the following film, The Doctrine of Discovery, (1 hour), created and shared by fellow spiritual social justice & equity colleagues: Anglican Church of Canada's award-winning film, *The Doctrine of Discovery: Stolen Lands, Strong Hearts*.

<https://www.anglican.ca/primate/tfc/drj/doctrineofdiscovery/>.

In the fall, we will want to decide what we might do as a body to follow up on our commitments to the indigenous peoples, and to help stop the ongoing violence and injustice to which they continued to be subjected. In the meantime, every email, every phone call, every conversation and every prayer make a difference.

Feel free to pass this email on to anyone you think it might interest. In gratitude for all you do. **Brenda Linn and the ESJAG steering committee.**

Brenda Linn, PhD., Ecological and Social Justice Action Group,
The Cathedral, 635 Ste. Catherine St. West

We encourage you to prepare notes and questions. Talia and I thank Brenda and her daughter, Taddy, for their mutual support along this journey of education and healing.

**Blessings,
Selina Ann Rooker**

"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter."

~ Martin Luther King Jr.





A Very Happy Birthday to **Bella Gavanski** on September 3rd, **Brianne Amstutz** on September 7th and **Cormac Lutes** on September 28th. We wish you health and happiness and a successful school year – and hoping that the world will gradually get back to normal for you all.

~ ed

NANCY GRAHAM RECOMMENDS

🌟 Who hasn't wondered how the universe works? We LUUCers are big on **questioning** and going on **quests for answers**...so why not follow your **curiosity spark** to this mesmerizing series on natural geographic theory and the like? Check out this Wikipedia link to discover more:

https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/How_the_Universe_Works#Episode_list

"The presenter sheds light on the origin of the universe while various world-renowned physicists present their fascinating theories." **Nancy** enthusiastically told me that she catches her fave *How the Universe Works* doc episodes on the National Geographic Channel. You may also find it playing weekly on Science (**SCI**) Chanel. 🌍

Finally, if you or your family members just can't get enough, **How The Universe Works** is currently available for purchase online in DVD multi-season compilations. This show has, in fact, produced **over 80** episodes, having entered their **9th** sensational season this past Spring! ✨ Time for us to immerse in our incredible universe. Thank you, **Nancy G**, for sharing this fascinating show with us! 🌟

- **Selina Ann**

IMAGINE THIS



Enjoy the soothing music of a harp concert.

Gary learned of a musician who plays her waterproof harp on a Paddleboard. www.serenitesonore.com –

What will they invent next, I wonder!

CUC EIGHTH PRINCIPLE PROCESS

The next roundtable on dismantling racism & the 8th Principle Process takes place on **Saturday, August 28th at 9am PT | 10am MT | 11am CT | 12pm EP | 1pm AT.**

At this session, we will spend time exploring hesitations, fears, resistance and questions about the proposed 8th Principle. We will approach this from a place of curiosity, asking thoughtful and curious questions, in an atmosphere of respect and reflection. We will also share what is affirming about the proposed Principle. Join me. [Zoom sign up here.](#)

Timeline & Events:

Jun 26 | Jul 31 | Aug 28 | Sep 25 | Oct 30 @12-1:30 pm ET:

CUC Roundtables will be held on the last Saturday of each month for conversation and questions about the proposed 8th Principle and process

Congregations schedule times for conversations

September 19 - CUC Hosted Forum 1 (7-8:30 pm ET)

October 3 - CUC Hosted Forum 2 (7-8:30 pm ET)

October 17 - CUC Hosted Forum 3 (7-8:30 pm ET)

October 20: Deadline for Feedback from congregations to CUC

November 6: official notice of meeting sent out with all pertinent information

November 7: Final CUC Hosted Forum (7-8:30 pm ET) to discuss updates or changes

November 27 - CUC Special Meeting (12-2:30 pm ET)

<https://cuc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/A-Way-Forward-for-the-8th-Principle-Process2-2021-05-13.pdf>

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cuc.ca

~ **Susan Cz.**

AFGHANISTAN

The recent withdrawing of Allied troops from Afghanistan has an uncanny parallel with the British evacuation of Dunkirk in 1940. The Afghan government unexpectedly gave up, leaving the US and allies about 3 weeks to get out. In 1940 the French unexpectedly capitulated, leaving 400,000 British soldiers on a beach surrounded by the German army and under heavy attack from the Luftwaffe - with a few days to get out. The US and allies had the most up-to-date equipment for their evacuation – the British relied upon 3,000 small pleasure and fishing boats for theirs. Both retreats were heroic, historic and a mad shambles – both rescued most of their nationals with politicians trying to spin it into a great success. Both leaders were acting on a plan handed to them by the previous administration. No one has ever successfully invaded Afghanistan – British, Russian, Sikhs, Persians, Mongols - even Alexander the Great tried - but all failed miserably due to the fierce mountain ways of the Afghans. When will we ever learn? ~ **ed**

TWO SPECIAL TREATS TO END THIS NEWSLETTER

Nancy Schmidt's Strawberry Crisp

350 degrees for 40-45 minutes

Strawberry Filling:

- 5 cups fresh strawberries, hulled and quartered
- 1/4 cup sugar and grated rind of 1 orange
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract and 3 tablespoons cornstarch

Oat Crisp Topping:

- 1 cup flour
- 1/2 cup butter, very cold and diced
- 1/4 cup sugar and 3/4 cup brown sugar, packed
- 1/4 teaspoon salt and 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 cup rolled oats

Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees and spray a 9x13 pan with cooking spray.
2. In a large bowl, combine the strawberries, sugar, orange rind, vanilla extract and cornstarch until the sugar is well combined.
3. Pour the strawberries into the baking dish.
4. Add the flour, butter, sugar, brown sugar, salt and cinnamon to a food processor and pulse until the butter resembles coarse crumbles.
5. Pour into a small bowl and add the oats into the bowl and press the oats into the mixture with your hands or a fork, until combined.
6. Sprinkle topping over strawberries

ARTWORK OF HENRIK GRAHAM – MILDA'S FATHER

This stunning art was 'painted' with a card.



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WELCOME BACK LUUCERS!



Asters

