

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



OCTOBER 2021 NEWSLETTER

A NEW AND DIFFERENT BEGINNING

October 3 begins our hybrid services which will offer us a choice of how to attend on Sundays. You can continue to attend LUUC services on Zoom, or, for those who are comfortable and are doubly vaccinated, you can join us in our sanctuary. We will have Covid precautions in place and everyone will be seated safely distanced to enjoy the service. There will be no singing by those attending (except for those on Zoom, who will be muted), and no refreshments.

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 October, the worship themes are *Cultivating Relationship and Reverence*.

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

October 3 - 10:30 a.m.

PAVED WITH GOOD INTENTIONS

Mark Abley

Many Canadians were shocked this year by the discovery of hundreds of bodies on the grounds of residential schools in western Canada. The discoveries drew renewed attention to a system that operated across the country for more than a century. This system removed Indigenous children as young as four years old from their families and sent them to live in institutions where they were often physically and sexually abused, and where they were always deprived of their languages and cultures. The abuses perpetrated in the name of God and the Crown have been known for a long time—nearly six years have passed since the final, multi-volume report of the Truth and Reconciliation

Commission. Yet on an emotional level, it was only the discovery of human remains this year that seemed to make the terrible reality of the schools sink in.

Mark Abley will explore questions that continue to baffle a lot of Canadians. He emphasizes that he will not speak *for* Indigenous people - they are more than capable to doing that for themselves. Instead, he will ask: how could well-meaning Canadians, fifty or a hundred years ago, be so blind as to the nature and the impact of the schools? What did the government and the churches believe they were doing? How did they justify their actions, and do these justifications have some resonance for us in 2021?

Service Leader - Christopher Thomson

Musicians - Kerry-Anne Kutz & Michael Cartile

Zoom Greeters: Dori Abbott and Nancy Schmidt. Joys and Concerns: Kathy M.
Zoom Host: Gary Spiller Church Greeter - Damian Rooker-Sanchez

October 10 - 10:30 a.m.

ECSTATIC. THANKS. GIVING.
Rev. Dr. Heather Fraser Fawcett

Three words. Ecstatic Thanks Giving. Capitalized. What do you feel, think, suppose, when these words appear before you? Where is the pleasure and the pain within these few words? Where is the challenge and the hope?

Whether face down in the mud or dancing a jig, may we dare to be lifted by the Spirit and Mystery of Life. This Thanksgiving. May there be Ecstatic Thanks Giving.

Service Leader - Susan Czarnocki

Musicians - Kerry-Anne Kutz & Michael Cartile

Zoom Greeters: Kathy Matyas and Nancy Schmidt. Joys and Concerns: Kathy M.
Zoom Host: Margaret Godbeer

Kerry-Anne has announced that our Lakeshore Community Choir will sing at this service, guaranteeing ecstatic thanksgiving for us all!



October 17 - 10:30 a.m.

**HELPING OTHERS
Chad Diabo**

Chad is a Mohawk of Kahnawake, working at Aboriginal Initiatives in conjunction with Corrections Canada as an Assistant Elder and Cultural Facilitator. In his spare time, he is a volunteer fire fighter and 1st responder, as well as a Pow-wow drum carrier, drummer and singer. In his words, "I try to live my life as a positive role model and inspiration to others."

He was dealt a deck of cards that included many challenges; surviving being abused sexually by a relative, having a parent and other key family afflicted with alcoholism, the Oka crisis, the racism of being a Mohawk native in Quebec, and being denied his culture by purpose and circumstance, resulting in anxiety and depression.

Yet Chad states, "I would not change them if I could. I accept these, because they are a part of me, just like my left arm, or foot are. They have allowed me the opportunity to grow, test myself and through the knowledge and experience gained - HELP OTHERS."

Service Leader - Sheila Laursen

Musicians - Kerry-Anne Kutz & Michael Cartile

Zoom Greeters: Kathy Matyas and Nancy Schmidt. Joys and Concerns: Kathy M.

Zoom Host: Margaret Godbeer

October 24 - 10:30 a.m.

**SPACE BETWEEN THE LOGS
Dorothy Latta**

It is always wonderful to welcome back Dorothy Latta of the Plattsburgh, New York UU Fellowship to our congregation. Dorothy will speak about when in a rush and feeling stressed, sometimes the hardest thing to do is to stop: often we may feel compelled to go even faster. How can we find it easier to pause?

Service Leader - Monique Riedel

Musicians - Kerry-Anne Kutz & Michael Cartile

Greeters: Irene Hausknost and Nancy Schmidt.

Joys and Concerns: Irene H.

Zoom Host: Margaret Godbeer

IMPORTANT NEWS ON PAGE 17 OF THIS NEWSLETTER

October 31 - 10:30 a.m.

**ALL SOUL'S SUNDAY
LUUC Members**

In many cultures, November 1st is a day to honour those who have died before us. Susan and several members of our congregation will reflect on our treasured memories and the ongoing influence of some members of LUUC who have gone before us, but will never be forgotten.

Service Leader - Susan Czarnocki

Musicians - Kerry-Anne Kutz & Michael Cartile

Zoom Greeters: Irene Hausknost & Nancy Schmidt. Joys and Concerns: Irene H.

Zoom Host: Margaret Godbeer

HERE COMES CHRISTMAS - SANTA CLAUS - AND FRUIT CAKE!

Sheila Laursen will be shopping, chopping, mixing, blending and baking in November to create and deliver delicious fruitcakes “to order” for you to enjoy, or to give as gifts!

You can then serve (or send) homemade fruitcake (dark or light) to family and friends this holiday season – without having to spend hours making it yourself!

All profits go to our LUUC fundraising efforts.

Prices for 2021 reflect higher costs of ingredients this year:

1 lb - \$15.00 2 lb - \$27.00 3 lb - \$35.00

Please contact **Sheila (514-697-4195 or sheila.laursen@bell.net)** before October 31st to place your order for light or dark fruitcake in the size you prefer.

~ Sheila Laursen



PRESIDENT'S COLUMN



This Newsletter is reaching you just a few days before our planned launch of return to services in the sanctuary: October 3rd. We will be testing what we hope will be a way to provide choice to you the members to participate in LUUC services in a way that feels safe and comfortable.

The current plan is that we will be holding our service in the Sanctuary, following the rules given below. If all goes as planned, we will also be broadcasting the service through ZOOM. Our trials have been promising.

Even if we get the technology to work, it will not be, in any sense, a return to things 'as they were'. We are not 'post pandemic'. We are at somewhere on the road to a 'new normal' that we are building as we go along.

The hugs, the handshakes, the whisper in the ear – still to be avoided. No passing out of hymnals, or trays for collecting the offertory. Instead, we will be testing alternatives. We hope that you are feeling the excitement – and looking forward to reinventing how we do what we do.

These are the steps that we will be taking, based on provincial guidelines and medical assessments, our local building and space, and consultations with other congregations:

1. Attendance Register: Everyone signs a register with their phone number, for contact tracing purposes.
2. The first time you attend you will be asked to show your proof of vaccination before entering the building. If you haven't already you can download it here: <https://www.quebec.ca/en/health/health-issues/a-z/2019-coronavirus/progress-of-the-covid-19-vaccination/proof-covid-19-vaccination#c101441>
Should you have difficulty Margaret Godbeer is available to help. **You will only be asked to show proof the first time that you attend.**
3. Procedural masks: the blue and black ones that are in most common use must be worn at all times in the building. We will have a box of masks available for those who do not have one: Cloth masks are not to be used.
4. Physical distancing: We will be practicing being together while being safely apart. Seating will be in every other row. There will be marks on the pews, 2 metres apart. Family groups can occupy a pew as a group ('bubble').
5. Singing: Best advice is that we should refrain from singing until case numbers decline. Kerry-Anne will sing as was our practice on ZOOM.

Best practice is for everyone to exit the building 'with all deliberate speed' at the close of the service. Being outdoors is safer!

~ **Susan**

FROM THE TREASURER



September is almost over and soon it will be fall. Our services have restarted after a summer break. Many thanks to those of you who have continued to contribute over the summer months. It is greatly appreciated.

We have invested in some new equipment to enable us to continue to make our services available online while we hopefully begin to gather in person in October.

However even when we meet in person it is unlikely that we will be able to pass a collection plate as we did before Covid.

Please consider putting whatever you would usually put in the collection plate aside every week and perhaps every month send a cheque to LUUC or make an e transfer to **lakeshoretreasury@gmail.com**.

Most of our major expenses (rent, contracts, insurance, speakers etc.) continued during the summer and when we worshiped together on zoom.

Thank you,

Margaret Godbeer, Treasurer

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

A committee of Knit Chicks is planning to hold a Christmas Bazaar. We are tentatively planning for an in-church happening to be held on November 28th. We do not know at this time if that will be possible, so failing that, our Plan B will be to hold an on-line event. Either way, we will be contacting you to ask for your ideas, your talents and your help. On **October 30th, 1978** – the LUC Xmas Boutique Committee wrote in the newsletter:

**A project unique
Is the Xmas Boutique -
If we hope to succeed
Every hand we shall need.
Can you sell - bake - or sew
When we call, DON'T SAY "NO".**

Not much changes does it? ~ **Margaret, Constance and Heather.**

THE INVESTMENT COMMITTEE WAS CREATED AT OUR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING IN JUNE 2021

Members of the Committee were **Margaret Godbeer, Christopher Thomson, Gary Spiller, Paul Sullivan, Caitlin Berry, and Gabor Matyas.**

The mandate of the Committee was “*to reflect, and make recommendations to the membership of LUUC on the use of LAM invested funds to sustain and grow our congregation.*” The Committee met on July 14 and August 18; to reflect and discuss and agreed on these assessments.

LUUC currently has \$381,000 invested with Lester Asset Management (the LAM fund). The purpose of the LAM fund should not be to buy a building or to hire a minister. The purpose of the LAM fund should be to help fund the regular operations of LUUC, and, after that, to fund new growth-oriented initiatives.

The following recommendations were made to the Board of LUUC. They were accepted and approved at the board meeting on September 20, 2021.

RECOMMENDATION #1

The Committee believes that 8% per year is the maximum that can be withdrawn without depleting the LAM fund in the long run.

NOTE-That amount represents \$24,000 per year at present.

This estimated maximum should be reassessed every year by the Treasurer, and proposed to the Board and to the annual general meeting of the Congregation. (Christopher and Margaret will prepare a template for this calculation.) The frequency of withdrawals should be left to the discretion of the Treasurer. The LAM fund is currently split 80-20 between the LAM equity fund and the LAM cash fund. Our committee feels that this split is reasonable and should not be revised at this time. The Treasurer should monitor the split and, with Board approval, modify it if appropriate.

RECOMMENDATION #2

The Board should create a new long-range planning/growth committee to generate new ideas and investigate them.

Examples of growth ideas are publicity; strategic partnerships; networking with smallish successful UU congregations; networking with the CUC; and some ambitious growth plans with our youth.

Other ideas include strategic social action projects that are linked to growth; networking with local social action organizations; networking with local non-UU congregations; helping refugees; and urging LUUC members to leave donations to LUUC in their wills.

Both recommendations were accepted and approved at the board meeting on September 20, 2021. The Board will send out an invitation for those interested in being on the Long-Range Planning Committee.

~ Submitted by Margaret Godbeer

SINGING FOR SUITCASES!



Kerry-Anne and her voice students will present a short live concert for **Suitcases for Africa** on Saturday, October 30 at 4:30 p.m. at LUUC.

Suggested donation of \$20. to support the important work of SFA.

All are welcome. Social distancing, masks while moving about in the church and hand sanitizing at the door will be observed for everyone's safety. Due to the pandemic restrictions, we will unfortunately not serve coffee and goodies.

Please **RSVP** by **October 25th** to **Kerry-Anne: kkutz@videotron.ca or 514 758-3641**

If possible, we will also broadcast simultaneously.

~ **Kerry-Anne Kutz**

NB: Wendy Buchanan of Suitcases for Africa recently organized a very successful outdoor fundraiser selling items from Kenya, soup, baking and house plants. People came from far and wide and Wendy was impressed by the community spirit and feelings of joy they experienced being together again. (NB: SFA's beef and barley soup was delicious.)

~ **ed**

2021 FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN "ON THE MOVE" FOR ACTION REFUGIES MONTREAL

For several years now, Lakeshore members have been walking or bike riding to raise fund for the work *Action Réfugiés Montréal* does in sustaining refugees who come to the Montréal area. Again this year, I have set up a Lakeshore Team and I have personally pledged to cycle 36 km as my fundraising activity. Lakeshore members have contributed, as of this writing on 20 September, \$ 750 to my goal of \$ 1000. My other friends have contributed an additional \$ 350 so the Lakeshore Team has reached so far \$ 1100, 10 % over the goal.

My sincere thanks to the Lakeshore community for getting behind this project once again and holding out a welcoming hand to refugees coming to make their homes here. The **campaign continues until Saturday 2 October**. So contact me if you wish to add your contribution.

- **Christopher Thomson**

IMPORTANT NEWS ON PAGE 17 OF THIS NEWSLETTER

MONIQUE IN THE POINTE CLAIRE NEWS



“Mayoralty candidate Tim Thomas answered many questions about the coming city election from **Monique Riedel**, who he met in the PointeClaire Village. Thomas explained to her this election is crucial for the city, and if he wins there will be control over the condominium invasion under way which the current administration has failed to address. Thomas says it’s hard for him to walk down any street without being stopped by citizens wanting to know what is happening to Pointe-Claire.” ~ **Pointe Claire News**

Monique is pictured in Pointe Claire Village with the site of the old Pioneer Pub in the background. The pub was demolished and some very up-market condos are being built in its place. ~ **ed**

THE KNIT CHICKS



As part of the LUUC Auction earlier this year, **Christopher Thomson** commissioned **Christine Wooley** to knit him a woollen hat. **Christine** requested a photo – and **Christopher** obliged.

The Chicks are still meeting – mostly via Zoom – on Tuesday mornings – and are currently working on items to sell at our Christmas Bazaar.

~ **ed**

THE BOOK NOOK



I am currently re-reading a book I read many years ago – and enjoying it even more the second time around. The action takes place 25 years after the British left India – and Colonel Tusker Smalley, retired and his wife Lucy stayed on in India rather than return home to England. Tusker is a curmudgeon and he and Lucy live in a small hill station with its eccentric inhabitants and archaic rituals left over from the days of Empire. **Staying On** by **Paul Scott** – (he wrote the **Raj Quartet**, made into a TV series – **the Jewel in the Crown**) – is funny and emotional - it is also a tender love story. The author won the Booker Prize for this short novel.

~ ed

TINY ORANGE SWEATERS



Across Canada people are knitting tiny orange sweaters for National Truth and Reconciliation Day (September 30, 2021).

The intent of the displays is to communicate to those harmed in Canadian Residential Schools that people are listening and that we care.

The tiny sweaters will be displayed initially at John Rennie High School in Pointe Claire but it is hoped that they will be displayed in other places throughout the year.

More information is available on the Facebook page “Tiny Orange Sweaters” <https://www.facebook.com/groups/328077959023299/>

~ **Margaret Godbeer**

SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE’s OPINION OF MONTREAL!

“Montreal is the best part of Canada and the worse part of France!” ~ SNL

IMPORTANT NEWS ON PAGE 17 OF THIS NEWSLETTER

WHAT HAS YOUR BOARD BEEN UP TO???



SNIPPETS FROM THE BOARD: This fall has brought many complicated decisions for the Board to take regarding implementing hybrid services and the technical and health and safety challenges that involves. But that is not all that has kept your Board busy!

- We are deeply grateful for the co-operation and hands-on support of Oddbjorn and the other Norwegian members of their association in helping us to store our archives safely, to have the sanctuary in spic and span condition for the recent weddings that took place there, and for Oddbjorn's offer to be our technical support person at our hybrid services (having told his wife he will be found at LUUC services on Sunday mornings!)
- We know that our Junior Youth group of children is looking forward to coming together again, and will be doing so every 2 weeks to begin. The Board was delighted to learn from **Caitlin** that **Erin Berry** will return to work with our Junior and Senior groups!
- This fall will bring music back with in person events planned by **Kerry-Anne** - the choir will sing at one service, and music concerts will take place in late October and in November. We all know music is good for body and spirit!
- **Kerry-Anne** and **Paul Sullivan** led the way to officiating at weddings in our sanctuary over the summer. **Dori and Peter Abbott** were the proud grandparents at the latest Abbott wedding, and they will be happy to report how well that in-church celebration went!
- The Board thanks the Investment Committee which worked hard to present 2 thoughtful recommendations to the Board. Those were approved and will be acted upon.
- Four members of our congregation attended the first CUC forum on the 8th Principle being proposed for adoption, and recommend that other interested LUUCers join in too. Ask **Susan** how you can join the conversations on these dates:

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

~ *Sheila*

IMPORTANT NEWS ON PAGE 17 OF THIS NEWSLETTER

CARING CORNER



Jose Van Amerongen took a tumble on one of her outings on her 3 wheeled cycle, and has been suffering from back and leg pain since then. Please send Jose your healing wishes so she can soon be “out and about” again - and even dancing, when we can do Fun and Frolicking once again!

Hélène Cimon Auer has spent time at the Lakeshore General Hospital after passing blood. After one night in the “crazy” Emergency Room, she was settled into a private room, which allowed her to get a full night’s sleep. She is recovering well, and will be transferred soon to a Rehab facility. She has enjoyed visits from her family, and phone calls from some LUUCers.

Nathalie Hainaut’s only sibling, her brother, died unexpectedly recently at his home in the Eastern Townships. Our deep sympathy goes out to Nat as she copes with the grief in her heart, and the complicated paperwork now placed on her shoulders...

Rolf Blydt-Hansen was one of the first Norwegians to welcome us to share their building and to guide and support us in that major transition back in 2011. We join with our Norwegian friends in mourning his recent death, and the death of several of their members during the pandemic. **Paul Sullivan** has offered to create a Memorial Bench to be placed on the church grounds in Rolf’s memory, and for all to reflect and remember upon.

~ **Sheila**

There I was just about to finish my newsletter – but decided to search for a thanksgiving pic on line. (see p.15) - when it happened. My computer was locked and an annoying voice told me that I had been hacked and that I wasn’t to turn the computer off – but must, must, must call the phone number that appeared on the screen, or all kinds of dire things would happen. Panic!

I phoned my favourite computer man – **Neil Abbott** – who was visiting relations – but agreed to come over to my place within the hour. Relief! I shut the door of my office – and turned up the TV – so that I didn’t have to listen to that annoying voice and awaited **Neil’s** arrival.

His first move was to verify if the telephone number was genuine. It wasn’t – as I suspected, the whole thing was an inconvenient scam. **Neil** pressed a few keys – and everything returned to normal. More relief!

He then turned to me and said very soberly, “Usually these things happen when people go onto porn sites.” Shocked silence from me! He then added that he didn’t judge! More silence – and then I just roared with laughter. Thank you, **Neil** – I am truly grateful.

~ **ed**

GUESS WHO!

She's one of our precious Knit-Chickers
Who's creative and wise and wears slickers

She cycles and sings
And does lots of things

And her family's famed for its knickers!

* * * * *

Six LUUCers let me know the answer to last month's riddle – of course it was **Christopher Thomson**. Many thanks to **Selina** who sent me this photo of our cycling Scotsman. (That's **Michael Cartile** squeezed between the doors!) ~ **ed**



THE NORWEGIAN ASSOCIATION OF MONTREAL

CHRISTMAS SALE - DEADLINE TO ORDER IS OCTOBER 6TH

<https://norwegian-association-of-montreal.myshopify.com/>

IMPORTANT – this on-line format requires you to pre-order and pre-pay for all items in advance. Only items pre-ordered and pre-paid will be purchased from Norway and delivered to Montreal. If you do not pre-order there will be no items available for you to purchase.

A limited number of Blotkaker (Marzipan Cakes) are available on a first-come first-serve basis, so order early.

Pick-up will be by appointment on Saturday November 20th at LUUC – you will be contacted to schedule a pick-up time that is convenient for you.

EQUITY PANEL NEWS



Expanding cultural and racial empathy:

C.A.R.E. is LUUC's own **Circle of All Races Equity** panel, an informal gathering of LUUCers that meet periodically to share their thoughts on cultural-racial issues and current events.

C.A.R.E.'s aim is to support LUUCers in our pursuit to identify colonial culture and to dismantle systemic racism, within ourselves and within our communities at large.

Once a month, **Talia Sanchez-Rooker and Selina Rooker** host a one-hour session on race equity relations.

Our next Zoom-meet is currently scheduled for **Saturday, October 9th, from 8 to 9pm.** (Note that the original date of Sunday the 10th was changed because of Thanksgiving!)

In preparation, we invite you to watch an enriching mini (1 hour) film, "The Doctrine of Discovery", shared with us by Taddy and Brenda Linn from the Ecological and Social Justice Action Group of The Cathedral.

We encourage you to prepare notes and questions. You may view this incredible documentary here:

Anglican Church of Canada's award-winning film, *The Doctrine of Discovery: Stolen Lands, Strong Hearts*. <https://www.anglican.ca/primate/tfc/drj/doctrineofdiscovery/>.

Merci "The Ecological and Social Justice Action Group (ESJAG) at the Cathedral is committed to working for social justice in our local community and in the wider world." **Talia** and I thank Brenda and her daughter, Taddy, for their reciprocal support along this journey of education and healing.

Beloved community healing happens one person at a time. See you at the next meet!

Warm regards,

Selina Ann Rooker

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

~ *Martin Luther King Jr.*



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A Happy Birthday to **Margaret Godbeer** on October 3rd. Margaret is our hard-working Treasurer/chief techie, etc. etc. etc. - there seems no limits to her many achievements. Enjoy your day Margaret.

Birthday Greetings to **Damian Sanchez-Rooker** on October 5th. Damien is happily back at school - this being his graduating year. He is hoping to be elected the Student Council's first male president – and we wish you so much luck with that Damian.

Happy Birthday greetings to **Christine Wooley** – our lady in New Brunswick – on October 6th. Christine has regularly attended our services throughout the pandemic and is also a treasured member of the Knit Chicks.

Happy Birthday on October 7th to **Jessica Shirley**. Jessica is a busy Mum these days – and we look forward to seeing her and her family when the times are safe.

Birthday Greetings to **Luna Santos-Deschamps** on October 8th. We hope you and your family are all well and that you are happy to be back at school.

October 9th is **James Sisley's** birthday. Happy Birthday James – we miss you!!

Happy Birthday to **Derek Prince** on October 18th – enjoy your day Derek.

* * * * *

Huntly McNiven has a new e-mail address: huntlymcniven@gmail.com



HAPPY THANKSGIVING AND HAVE A SAFE HALLOWEEN.

THE BIRCHES



This is another of HENRIK GRAHAM's beautiful paintings
 ~ (by permission of Milda Graham)

THIS AND THAT

PRESCRIPTION BOTTLES: You can drop off clean and label-free clear or coloured prescription bottles at 20787 Lakeshore, Baie D'Urfe. We have them delivered to Earthub in Ottawa for use with doctors overseas. <https://www.earthub.ca/make-a-difference>
Susan Hawker (514-457-1793) sahawker@hotmail.ca

STE. ANNE'S MARKET: Ste-Anne's Market – Open on Saturday 9am-2pm outdoor on the waterfront. Please spread the word that the market is ongoing, support this gem of a market. Bring your own bags.

PET BLESSING SERVICE: Christ Church Beaurepaire, 455 Church St. (at Fieldfare) Beaconsfield, QC. When: Sunday, October 3 at 4:30 pm. The dog-welcoming Paws & Pray Eucharistic service will be preceded by a blessing of (all) pets at 4:00 pm, on October 3rd. To ensure a safe environment for all attending the worship service at 4:30 pm, we adhere to strict COVID protocols: masks must be worn by humans throughout the service and physically distanced seating is practised throughout the church building.

MARCHE BEAU: – is an initiative by Les Amis du Village Beaurepaire for people in the area. <https://www.facebook.com/LesAmisduVillageBeaurepaire/> drop by on Friday's 3-6pm.
 ~ ed

<https://cuc.ca/events/8th-principle-process-forum-1/>



FORUM 1:
Orienting Ourselves

The Sparks

- represent what we bring with us into these forum sessions.
- Question to ask ourselves: *What am I bringing?*
- We embrace **VULNERABILITY**

The Flame

- represents the burning issues of our time, those things happening in the world that spur us on to be more conscious than we previously were about separation, injustice, and our role in it.
- Who calls me to be more conscious?
- We embrace **CHANGE**

8th Principle Process: Forum 1 - Canadian Unitarian Council Conseil unitarien du Canada

Canadian Unitarian Council. Address - 302-192 Spadina Ave Toronto, ON M5T 2C2 Office hours: 9am to 4:30pm (EST), Monday to Thursday Charitable registration number 106868474 RR0001 Phone: 416-489-4121 Toll free: 888-568-5723
cuc.ca

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

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

In the following article, I try to give a concise account of the origins and development of the idea of an 8th Principle:

RECAP: WHY AN 8th PRINCIPLE?

The idea of an eighth Principle is a direct outcome of the rather embarrassing lack of diversity in Unitarian-Universalist churches throughout North America.

The idea was developed by an African-American UU named Paula Cole Jones. After working with UU congregations on the issues of racism and racial inequality for over 15 years, she realized “that UU’s could believe they were following the 7 Principles without ever confronting racism and other oppressions imbedded in North American social mores. The obvious evidence of this: most UU congregations are primarily European-American in membership, culture (especially music), and leadership, even when located near diverse communities.” Her contemplation of this ‘obvious evidence’ brought her to the conclusion that an 8th Principle was needed to correct this. She began to speak about this and gained some ministerial support within the UUA. A major period of confrontational discussion has ensued, with a timeline for resolution in early 2022.

The CUC, recognizing similar failings, formed the Dismantling Racism Study Group which did some probing survey research, and produced a hard-hitting report on the general absence of significant grappling with the destructiveness of racism in Canada. They posit that this absence is largely sustained by what is now referred to as ‘white privilege’. One of the recommendations in the report is to adopt a Canadian version of the Eighth Principle, for the analogous reason: most UU congregations in Canada are primarily white, European-American in membership, culture, and leadership, despite the very real diversity of the Canadian population.

For Black UU’s, this development is seen as long-overdue. They believe it could mean a big step toward having people of color feel included in UU congregations. As discussions

continued, some UUA -congregations have in fact begun to incorporate this 8th principle into their congregational covenants

So it has come to this: 300+ years of North American 'value-shaping', initially forged on the conviction of Black inferiority, has distorted the perceptions even of UU's who proclaim equity as one of their valued principles. UU's, in the US and Canada, are perceived by people of color as failing to implement their own principles. They do not work relentlessly to eradicate the consequences of the racist assumptions at the heart of North American everyday life. So, as a denomination, having failed thus far to launch a widespread, coordinated, principled attack on racial inequity, as we should have been doing, if we were in fact were implementing fully our principles, we are now considering adding a new principle to demonstrate our regret. It has now come to a point where rejecting the 8th Principle will be perceived by those people of color actually in our midst, as a huge failure of UU's in North America to live up to their covenant "to affirm and promote justice, equity and compassion in human relations" (UU Second Principle).

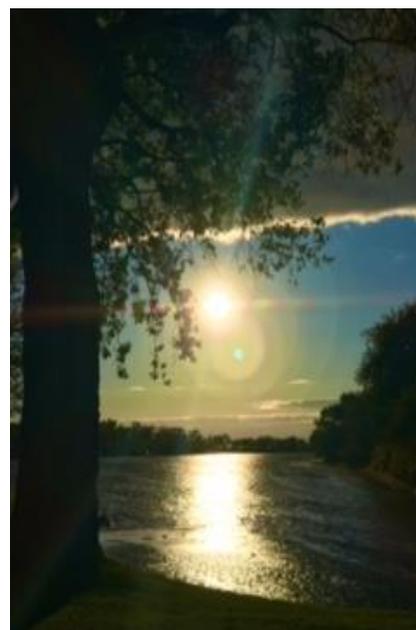
It is for each of us to make our own assessment of this approach as a way to atone for this moral and ethical failing. I have put my assessment on the LUUC blog for your inspection.

~ **Susan Czarnocki**



Michael Rooker and **Selina** offered photography instructions at the Spring Auction – and the lesson was last weekend in Lachine by the River. **Gary Spiller** and **Briony Falconer** were the willing pupils.

Gary said, "Thank you Michael and Selina for your photography tour in Lachine – there were lots of ducks – and made me think of duck a l'orange"



~ **Photos by Briony**

We have just had... "an election that nobody wanted and where no one got what they wanted."

~ **Chantel Hébert, Canadian Journalist**

WELCOME TO LAKESHORE

5065 Sherbrooke Street, Lachine, Qc. H8T 1H9 (514) 637-6974

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S.E. COMMITTEE FACILITATORS:	Selina Rooker	514-659-2534
	Caitlin Berry	289-937-1625
LAY CHAPLAINS:	Kerry-Anne Kutz	514-624-2307
	Paul Sullivan	514-457-1793
ADMIN. SECRETARY	Nathalie Hainault	514-637-6974
		Lakeshoreluuc@gmail.com
WEBMASTER	Christopher Thomson	514-634-5916
NEWSLETTER EDITOR:	Heather Falconer	514-630-4206
		miss.heather.falconer@gmail.com
ILLUSTRATION ARTIST:	Heather Falconer	
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:		October 25th, 2021
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