

LAKESHORE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

5065 Sherbrooke Street,

Lachine, QC. H8T 1H9

514 - 637- 6974



APRIL 2024 NEWSLETTER

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION MONTH

Volunteers are love in motion!

If you want to touch the past, touch a rock.

If you want to touch the present, touch a flower.

If you want to touch the future, touch a life.

~Author unknown

These “pithy”, poetic and powerful words express the importance of volunteers - and volunteerism - in our own lives, our communities, our societies. Each April brings a month-long celebration of volunteers in both Canada and the USA.

As a lay-led congregation, our LUUC members are all volunteers! With the support of a small team of contracted professionals, volunteers plan and conduct all aspects of our UU congregational life - church services, events and activities, planning committees, outreach and caring, financial management - the list goes on and on. And so, it is fitting that this month, we take the time to honour and celebrate the contributions that each of us makes to our congregational life and to the lives of others. It brings its own reward, as Rumi noted:

*If you become
a helper of hearts,*

springs of wisdom will flow from your heart.

~ Rumi, translated by Nevit O. Ergin

Our Sunday services this month of April will highlight some of the wonderful gifts that people have brought to our lives, our communities, through their voluntary commitment and actions. I hope you will help us learn from them, and celebrate their contributions.

~ Sheila Laursen

April 7, 2024 - 10:30 a.m.
Hybrid Service
Movers & Shakers

A Case for the Right to Housing
Ryan Simonyik

Ryan has a Bachelor's degree from Concordia University in Political Science and a graduate diploma in Community Economic Development. He has been involved in defending tenants' rights in the Greater Montreal area, building community capacity and giving tenants the tools to exercise their housing rights to the fullest.

Ryan's presentation will cover housing as a human right, the socio-economic imperatives of social and affordable housing, tenant's rights in Québec, and why he got involved in housing activism.

Service Leader - Sheila Laursen
Musician - Kerry-Anne Kutz
Greeters- Kerstin Brand & Nancy Schmidt
Refreshments - Heather Falconer
Technician - Oddbjorn Taraldsvik
Zoom Host - Gabor Matyas or Michael Rooker

April 14, 2024 - 10:30 a.
Hybrid Service

Bread and Beyond
Kirstie Jagoe

Our Planet, Our Lives

In March 2020, as the first COVID-19 lockdown took hold, the Resilience Montreal Shelter put out a call for food items that could be served outside. Staff shortages at shelters became acute, numbers of people needing the shelter services were rising and accommodation capacities of shelters were cut to meet Public Health distancing guidelines.

As a result, more and more clients had to be fed from the doors of the shelters or out on the streets by intervention workers. Donations of fresh, nutritious food-to-go were desperately needed. In September 2020, Bread and Beyond was established to respond to the ongoing crisis. Bread and Beyond's core activity is making and delivering fresh, nutritious sandwiches to shelters in Montreal. Kirstie Jagoe, founding Director of Bread and Beyond, shares how this amazing organization partners with community organizations, churches, schools and the private sector to feed and support the homeless of Montreal.

Service Leader – GarySpiller
Musician - Kerry-Anne Kutz
Greeters - Sara Kreps & Nancy Schmidt
Refreshments - Carlos Ochoa
Technician - Oddbjorn Taraldsvik
Zoom Host - Michael Rooker or Gabor Matyas

April 21, 2024
Hybrid Service
Healthy Body & Spirit

Earth Day and More....
Rev. Penny Allderdice

Penny Allderdice is a Unitarian-Universalist minister living in Newfoundland. Also a renowned geneticist, Penny has worked actively as a supervisor of pastoral care-givers at the Janeway children's hospital in St. John's. At 93, Penny is still an active gardener.

As we celebrate Earth Day Sunday, Penny will share her experiences working with people and maybe a little about the joys of gardening.

Service Leader Paul Sullivan
Musician - Kerry-Anne Kutz
Greeters: Gabor and Kathy Matyas
Refreshments - Christopher Thomson
Technician - Oddbjorn Taraldsvik
Zoom Host - Michael Rooker

April 28, 2024 - 10:30 a.m.
Hybrid Sunday Café

Music! Music! Music!
Lakeshore Community Choir

We are delighted to be welcoming back (by popular demand!) our amazing Lakeshore Community Choir. They will perform music by Gordon Lightfoot, Stan Rogers and more! This is bound to raise our spirits and get our toes tapping!

Coffee, tea and croissants will add to the ambience of our Sunday Café, and a freewill offering will be welcomed.

Host and conductor - Kerry-Anne Kutz
Greeters - Nancy Schmidt, Sari Kelen & Gary Spiller
Refreshments - Christine Wooley & Caitlin Berry
Technician - Oddbjorn Taraldsvik

ANNUAL ELECTORAL MEETING
(following the Sunday service)

YOU ARE INVITED
WEDNESDAY APRIL 3, 2024
From 7- 8:30 p.m.
For a special PATH TO MEMBERSHIP evening



This event will be held in person in our rented space.

Tea, decaf coffee and homemade treats will be there to enjoy...

ALL LUUC members are encouraged to attend this event to greet newcomers and those curious to know more about us.

We invite anyone interested in knowing more about becoming a member of our Lakeshore Unitarian Universalist

Congregation to meet our own “Movers and Shakers” such as;

- Those who serve on our Board of Directors
- Our Lay Chaplains
- Those who chair our Committees
- Our Newsletter Editor
- Our Admin. Secretary
- Our members

All you need to bring is yourself, and your questions. For those who are curious about who we are, and why we are LUUCers, we will share our pathways to Unitarian Universalism - and our involvement in our congregation.

Please RSVP to Sheila Laursen (514-697-4195 or sheila.laursen@bell.net) by Tuesday April 2 at 4 p.m. so we can have enough refreshments on hand.....

SERVICE LEADER WORKSHOP – PLEASE JOIN US

The Sunday Services Committee would very much like to see more people in our community taking on the role of service leader.

We still have a few spots left in this church year and if you need more time to think about it, we are looking forward to having a new slate of leaders in the fall.

Speak to **Paul Sullivan** to reserve your spot. For more information, please contact **Paul Sullivan** at plsullivan43@gmail.com or 514-457-1793.

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT



Your Board has been very busy over the past month, with each of us juggling several challenges, opportunities and concerns!

- ◆ **Susan**, as Treasurer, worked closely with our book-keeper to ensure that the 2023 tax receipts were sent on time to all who made a donation to LUUC. And keeping track of our expenses, paying speakers and our contracted support team, rent and denominational fees plus depositing any revenue kept her, and our bank, very busy.
- ◆ **Gary**, with **Nancy's** support, has communicated regularly with parents of our SE children, our SE coordinator and her backup helper. He also reached out to schools to get children, youth and parents involved in Bread and Beyond sandwich-making sessions after a Sunday service - with 300 sandwiches for the homeless made in one session!
- ◆ **Nancy and Paul** have worked closely with our Social Media consultant to “boost” our promotional outreach of Sunday services and the monthly Sunday Cafés. Thanks to those efforts, we have welcomed some newcomers and have had good and enthusiastic audiences for the Sunday Café musical performances (which have raised some funds at the same time with Freewill offerings...)
- ◆ **Milda** has supported our Admin Secretary in the challenges of learning how to integrate new communication and outreach tools such as MailerLite into our regular weekly notices of services, and announcements of special activities and events.
- ◆ **Paul and Oddbjorn** have improved the sound system, worked out many “kinks” of Zooming our services (now those on Zoom can “attend” the Sunday Cafés too!) and they are working on how to improve the technical aspects now so important. Even when in London, UK, Oddbjorn supported our newest volunteer, **Sara Kreps**, to be the technician for Sunday March 3! We are so grateful to them both!!
- ◆ **I (Sheila)** have kept in regular contact with Rev. Diane Rollert of the Unitarian Church of Montreal (UCM), as we figured out how best to inform LUUCers and be prepared for the possibility of a protester outside our Sunday service home (so far, not needed). I also keep in touch with the 3 Afghan siblings that LUUC is helping the UCM to sponsor as refugees, and I raise funds monthly from about 20 West Island contributors to keep the siblings safe in Islamabad while waiting for that process to slowly move forward. All 3 siblings have now had their “biometrics” done by Canadian officials in Pakistan....so there is some progress to report!

The months of March and April are when we begin to look ahead to our fiscal year end (April 30) and our congregational process of electing our Board of Directors for 2024-

2025. Look for the Report of the Nominating Committee (below)), and be ready to participate in that election on Sunday April 28 following our service. The new Board comes into effect following our Annual Meeting in June.

Please remember that while your Board of 6 Directors will be elected to serve, it takes MANY more people than that to actively engage and support the programs, services, outreach and mission of the Lakeshore Unitarian Universalist Congregation.

PLEASE CONSIDER HOW YOU CAN HELP - AND LET US KNOW!

There are many benefits of volunteering that await you!

~ Sheila Laursen

NOTICE OF ANNUAL ELECTORAL MEETING
Sunday April 28, 2024 (following the Sunday service)

Nominating Committee Report:

As per the By-Laws, I, as Nominating Committee Chair, am transmitting our slate of nominees for the April 2024 Board Elections:

President- Sheila Laursen
Vice-President – Nancy Schmidt
Secretary-Milda Graham
Director A- Gary Spiller

Responsible Membership Committee – Christine Wooley, Rob Lutes, one Board Representative

Any other consenting person may be placed in nomination with the support of three Lakeshore members until TWENTY days before the Board Elections in late April.

(This must be sent to Milda Graham Board Secretary by April 2, 2024)

***Submitted by Gabor Matyas,
Chair of the Nominating Committee***

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT – MARCH 11th 2024

With a view to the Board Elections to be held in April for the 2024-2025 church year, the Nominating Committee composed of five members elected at last year's June Annual General Meeting has confirmed that the current President **Sheila Laursen** be nominated for a new two-year term. 2024-2026; **Nancy Schmidt** has agreed to be nominated for Vice-President for 2024-2026; **Milda Graham** agreed to serve another two year term 2024-26 and **Gary Spiller** is willing to be the nominee for the position of Director A for a two -year term.

Please note that any group of three Lakeshore members may propose to the Board Secretary (Milda Graham) additional nominees for any of these three positions, provided they supply written consent from their nominee.

Finally, the positions of Treasurer and Director B are not up for renewal in this April's election as **Susan Czarnocki**, and **Paul Sullivan** are in the middle of their two-year terms.

Gabor Matyas, Co-Chair

Gary Spiller Co-Chair

Board Liaison Nominating Committee: **Gabor Matyas**, **Gary Spiller** Co-Chairs, **Heather Falconer**, **Nancy Graham**, **Selina Rooker-Sanchez**

The Committee met on March 10th to propose nominees and again on March 11th, after consulting the nominees to confirm their willingness to serve.

VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY NEEDED AT NOVA



The NOVA Book store in Ste. Anne de Bellevue urgently needs volunteers for a 3-hour shift – morning or afternoons. It's a fun job, interesting clients to chat to and loads of wonderful books to peruse. Try it – you'll like it! Call Nada at nadaraouda@gmail.com for more information.

NB: If you watch the Eclipse – do wear the proper glasses.

TREASURER'S REPORT



Evaluating our efforts:

At last year's AGM we endorsed trying a 'spending for success' approach for this year, approving a Budget for up to \$5000 for publicity, to be administered by the Communications and Publicity Committee, headed by Nancy Schmidt and Paul Sullivan.

As the beneficiaries of 30+ years of careful financial management, starting from the use of the proceeds of the sale of the building owned by the congregation, we presently have a substantial investment fund of over 300k\$ enabling us to run some risks and try new ideas. In the past we budgeted conservatively, trying to preserve our 'nest-egg'. This year we 'encouraged some of the chickens to walk around outside'. Can actively spending some of our investments help to generate a brighter future for LUUC?

The numbers below set out the financial side of this process. The big change in emphasis is visible in the contrast on spending for Publicity. We went from having no budget for publicity in 2022-2023, to spending \$1000 to date in 2023-24. We have also been hiring CEGEP students to lead SE sessions, and creating 'Sunday Cafes': offering amazing musical performances not readily available elsewhere. The most expensive decision we made was to hire a Social Media Consultant to make us 'findable' by those who are looking to join a committed community, addressing the rising levels of community needs.

Across the months since June, slowly getting the new plan in place, we have produced a series of worthwhile Sunday services, from the 'soul-shaking', to the 'positivity generating'. We have reached out to 'Bread and Beyond' to help feed the homeless, and collected food for Food Banks, struggling to meet local demand.

In this month, April, we hold elections to the Board and start preparing for our AGM in June. We need to build a consensus that can guide our next steps. What role can we play in offering hope and solace for the human future?

Please make your evaluation of results so far, so that we can plan meaningful next steps.

~ Susan, Treasurer

Continued on next page

Compare : **2022-2023: 12 months**

2023-2024: 10 MONTHS

Income	our donations & efforts	37k\$	42k\$income
	from investments	15k\$	30K\$
	TOTAL	52K\$	72K\$
Expenses	Contracts:	15000	20933[10 months]
	rent	15600	13800[10 months]
	utilities	100	100
	equipment/property	2200	1800
	Sunday Services	3475	4964
	CUC support	2077	3257
	Publicity	0	1000
	other	11671	14535
TOTAL		\$50,123	\$60,389

PLANT MORE ASTERS



Plant as many native plants as you can realistically employ that are native to your ecoregion and suited to the site conditions and the existing plants in your garden.

NB: I have two asters to be divided this spring. They are a deep pink in colour, about 30 inches tall, and bloom in the late autumn – when not much else is in flower. Very hardy plants. If you want one – please let me know.
~ ed **Heather at 514-630-4206**

MORE ON VOLUNTEERING AND VOLUNTEERS

VOLUNTEER



There is much to be said about volunteering, and why becoming a volunteer is good for our physical AND mental health!

What is volunteering?

Volunteering is the time you give to strengthen your community and improve others' quality of life as well as your own.

There are so many ways to be involved in the community that:

- Speak to your passion
- Suit your personality
- Meet your interests
- Build on your experiences
- Fit into your lifestyle
- Contribute to your health and well-being

The Mayo Clinic reports that research has shown that volunteering offers significant health benefits, especially for older adults, including:

1. Improves physical and mental health.
2. Provides a sense of purpose and teaches valuable skills.
3. Nurtures new and existing relationships.

And for all ages, Indeed Career Guide points out the following:

- Volunteering can add experience to your resume
- Volunteering can help prepare you for a new career or position change
- Volunteering can help you develop and apply new skills
- Volunteering can expand your network
- Volunteering helps you meet new friends
- Volunteering boosts self-esteem and makes you more confident
- Volunteering helps you connect with your community

The LUUC Connection....

Back in 1992, **Nancy Schmidt** was LUUC's volunteer coordinator of a wonderful regular column in the West Island section of the Montreal Gazette - called **KINDRED SPIRITS**, which focused "on how people of all religions and backgrounds respond to today's social and moral issues. "

In April of that year, Nancy reached out to me (Sheila Laursen, at the time, Director of the West Island YMCA Community Centre and President of the Board of CLSC Lac-St-Louis) and I submitted this article for the April 23, 1992 edition of Kindred Spirits. I think its message is still pertinent in 2024.....

Community volunteers learn a lesson - you gain by giving

“The grin of his face spoke volumes. From the middle of a circle of about a hundred boisterous children, he was the focus of attention as he led everyone through a ‘camp circle’ song. As a counsellor-in-training at the decamp, it was the intellectually handicapped teenager’s turn to lead the songs. It was his shining hour and his glee was heartwarming.

He is just one person who has experienced the joy of volunteering - of discovering the special sense of well-being that comes from giving time and energy to help others.

During Volunteer Recognition Week...it is appropriate to reflect on the world of volunteers.

No longer should one picture a typical volunteer as a middle-aged woman with children in school and time on her hands.

Many volunteers are women but they come from all ages and stages of life.

- Hundreds of West Island youth help handicapped people and senior citizens. And they discover an important lesson: one grows, and gains, through giving of oneself.
- CEGEP and university students are often told to do volunteer work as a part of their training - and to test their book-learning. Some go on to make a long-term commitment to programs such as Big Brothers\Big Sisters.
- Adults give of themselves as well. Our school committees, community organizations, churches, and planning boards are strengthened by the dedication of volunteers who do the “nuts and bolts”.
- Some of the most dedicated volunteers are in self-help or mutual-help groups. People who have gone through a great crisis - from losing a child or spouse to recovering from an addiction - reach out to others in distress. The effectiveness of the help from someone who’s “been there” is profound.
- Senior citizens are a growing segment of the volunteer population. They have discovered that by giving of their talents and their time, their own lives are enriched. Many seniors become surrogate grandparents for children whose own grandparents live far away. Programs such as Meals on Wheels, Friendly Visiting, and the Volunteer Bureau’s driving service are possible because of energetic and faithful senior volunteers.
- As in the example of the handicapped teenager, people whose lives are challenged daily by their special needs, also have special gifts to share. They are eager to help others, if only we can look beyond their handicap.

Volunteerism weaves the fabric of our community. Through that interconnection, we become a community in its truest sense.

~ **Sheila**



CARING



Sheila Laursen will be our Caring Person for March and April – you can contact her at **514-697-4195** or **sheila.laursen@bell.net**

Hélène Cimon Auer has moved to Château Pierrefonds. Her new address is:
Chateau Pierrefonds, Room 323,
15928 Boul. Gouin O.,
Sainte-Genieveve, Qc. H9H 1C8.
Her telephone # remains the same.

A celebration of the life of Frank (Paco) Greene, husband of Carol Green, will be held on Saturday, May 18 at 10:30 a.m. in the sanctuary, followed by a reception. The Rev. Diane Rollert officiating.



A Very Happy Birthday to our April LUUCers

A happy day on April 10th to our dear Toni Smith.

Special happy greetings to a special lady - Catherine Forbes on April 13th.

Happy Birthday to our Reverend Doctor - Heather Fraser Fawcett on April 21st.

It's our hard-working vice-president's birthday on April 22nd. Have a wonderful day, Gary Spiller.

JOIN IN CONGREGATIONAL CONVERSATIONS WITH OTHER CANADIAN UUs

The CUC (Canadian Unitarian Council) is offering a series of Congregational Conversations and members of LUUC are welcomed to register and participate in these free and informative conversations with members of other UU congregations across Canada. Each topic is offered twice (one in the afternoon and one in the evening) to allow as many people as possible to attend and participate.

Sheila has attended one on “**Surviving, Thriving and Sustainability**” and can share her notes from that session with anyone interested.

Paul has attended one on “**Volunteer Bandwidth, Burnout, & Reimagining**” -and will have notes to share from that one.

COMING UP: these conversation themes will be available for registration soon. In the meantime - here's a list to 'save the date':

Worship Programming & Leadership Development:

Friday April 12 or Saturday June 1

Children & Youth - Presence & Programming:

Wednesday April 17 or Saturday June 15

Financial Planning & Income Streams:

Saturday April 20 or Monday May 27

Ministry Options - Types, Availability, & Creative Alternatives:

Wednesday May 1 or Friday May 10

If you are interested, please take a moment to fill out this short form:

<https://forms.gle/XzJGcCgbXLePQLQn9>. It will ask your name / email / congregation/UU community / & which session you plan to attend. If you need to switch sessions, feel free to come to whichever one works. The form is simply to give the CUC a general idea of numbers, but you are welcome to switch. ~ **Sheila**



YOGA

Join **Usha and I** in the movement and stillness of yoga practice. Any questions? – reach me at sanskritsoccermom@gmail.com. Contribution is \$50 for 6 sessions or pay as you go. ~ **Milda**

SUNDAY CAFÉ



What a joyous time we had at the Sunday Café on March 24th - with 40 plus people in attendance, the crowd was warm and attentive.



MUSAIÏQUE is a new female vocal quartet featuring some of Quebec's finest singers - Monique Fauteux, singer and pianist with the iconic Quebec band Harmonium, Julie Leblanc and Catherine Léveillé who have sung with Céline Dion, and our own **Kerry-Anne Kutz**, a soloist with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Band.

This is their first public performance and they'll sing *Both Sides Now* by Joni Mitchell and *Something To Talk About* by Shirley Eikhard.



We also had the pleasure of hearing singer, songwriter, guitarist, VIVIAN KALOXILOS, who shared her thought-provoking songs centering on philosophy, for the care of our Earth and caring for each other. Her compassion was contagious and the range of her voice just amazing! A gifted young woman indeed.

PS: The croissants were good too! Many thanks to **Paul, Nancy and Kerry-Anne** for arranging these wonderful Sunday Cafés for us all to enjoy.

LAKESHORE U READ, WINE & CHEESE



THANK YOU FOR BEING A PART OF OUR VERY FIRST U READ WINE & CHEESE NIGHT!

(I extend my personal thanks to those of you who remained enthusiastic to this untried Fun & Frolic activity but were unable to make it in on a Saturday evening. Your support meant the world to me as a creative organizer of this short but sweet, experimental project).

Federico & I appreciate those of you who pulled on your woolies to come out and spend time with us and our other like-minded bibliophiles. We had a fun time organizing the reading wine & cheese gatherings and loved hearing the thoughtful passages shared and the heartfelt discussions that followed.

~ Blessings, Selina



Selina, Milda, Sara and Susan Cz. – photo by Federico

I attended just one of the U-Read sessions and enjoyed it immensely. Each participant brought along a couple of readings they favoured and read them aloud. A huge variety of authors were read, including John Steinbeck, Umberto Eco, Daphne du Maurier, Anna Sewall, G. K. Chesterton, Anne Morrow Lindburgh and even a Sanskrit dictionary - to name a few. It being a social event too, **Selina** had selected some fine cheeses and crackers to add to the evening's pleasure.

I do hope this will be continued next winter – it certainly helped the coldest days pass quicker. Top marks to Selina and Federico for arranging this event and thank you. **~ed**

IMPORTANT NOTICE

For many years, the Unitarian Church of Montreal has had a resident protester with placards, a video camera and a loud voice on the sidewalk leading to their church as people arrive for Sunday services.

A Court judgement pronounced this week has ruled against this person and placed an Interlocutory Injunction judgement that forbids him to come within 300 metres of their church building effective as of February 22, 2024.

We are concerned that this person may now bring his protest to our Lakeshore UU Congregation in Lachine as the Injunction covers only his presence outside the Unitarian Church of Montreal.

If you see this protester when you arrive at our LUUC building in Lachine, we advise you to just walk past him and not respond to him before entering the building.

If his behaviour makes you feel uncomfortable or unsafe, please ask to speak to one of the LUUC Board members when you come into the building. We will make out an Incident Report for follow up with the Police and the Court.

We want you to feel welcomed at our LUUC space and need to know if you feel upset or insecure.

Thank you for your understanding,
Sheila Laursen, LUUC Board President

DO LOOK AT THESE LITTLE LOVELIES



Sheila says: "... these birds landed on my grandson's Bird buddy bird feeder a few weeks ago which is equipped with a camera powered by a solar panel. I don't know what the birds would think about the ethics of this method of "catching" them unawares, but the results are pretty amazing."

WEST ISLAND'S EMPTY BOWLS EVENT TO REDUCE HUNGER!

Bols du partage

ÉVÉNEMENT DE COLLECTE DE FONDS

Améliorer la sécurité alimentaire, un bol à la fois.



25\$

Pour un bol fait à la main et une savoureuse soupe.
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Empty Bowls

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Improving food security,
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FESTIVAL DE LA VOIX - 2024

March 20 – April 13, 2024

CONCERTS, WORKSHOPS, AND MORE

The **2024 Festival de la Voix** is coming up, with an incredible program of concerts and workshops featuring renowned singers and musicians from a variety of styles and backgrounds

For more info: 514-758-3641 – www.festivaldelavoix.com

A GIGGLE OR TWO

The following appeared in church bulletins or were announced at church services.

The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.' The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

Don't let worry kill you off – let the Church help.

Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again', giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

The Rector will preach his farewell message, after which the choir will sing 'Break Forth Into Joy'.

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

Potluck supper Sunday at 5pm – prayer and medication to follow.

The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.

The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.

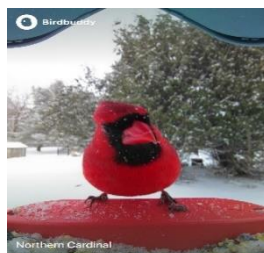
This evening at 7pm there will be hymn singing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.

Low Self-Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7pm. Please use the back door.

The Associate Minister unveiled the church's new tithing campaign slogan last Sunday: 'I Upped My Pledge – Up Yours.'

This being Easter Sunday, we will ask Mrs Lewis to come forward and lay an egg on the altar.

~ suggested by Paul



PROTECTING THE MONARCH BUTTERFLY



Many wish to see green space at Trudeau Airport protected as a way of protecting the Monarch Butterfly in the area. It has been suggested that because the airport belongs to Transport Canada the federal government has the power to stop development anywhere on the property.

However, Aéroports de Montréal (ADM) holds a long-term lease with Transport Canada, giving it the right to develop the airport's lands to generate revenue to finance airport operations. The government cannot therefore legally intervene in ADM's development decisions. That said, federal environmental law — namely, the Impact Assessment Act (IAA) and the Species at Risk Act (SARA) — can be used to ensure that development projects at the airport, and indeed on federal lands anywhere, take proper account of ecosystem impacts.

Specifically, the IAA requires third-party organizations like ADM that operate on federal Crown lands to conduct an environmental impact review before proceeding with a project. Pursuant to this review, should the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change judge that the project ecosystem impacts could be serious, he may designate the project for a broader, more comprehensive impact assessment complete with public participation. Environmental impact reviews and assessments are key levers by which the federal government can control development on federal Crown lands like airports, even when those lands are under third-party lease.

What's more, SARA allows the federal government to take immediate direct action — apply a protection order — to protect a species listed as endangered when its habitat, located on federal lands, has been designated critical for the species' survival.

The regulatory steps for designating a species as endangered requires the government to first undertake public consultations. With regards to the Monarch Butterfly, these consultations have taken place, and in January of this year the government officially accorded the Monarch endangered status. The government now has one year to finalize a recovery strategy for the species along with identifying its critical habitat. A designation of the airport lands as Monarch critical habitat would give environment minister Steven Guilbeault the power to prohibit development in that habitat.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Francis Scarpaleggia". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Francis Scarpaleggia

MERGING WATERS SOUP-POT CINEMA - FRIDAY MARCH 1ST AT 7:00



Call Jane (2 hours), This film is very pertinent, given current politics, especially in the States and stars Elizabeth Banks, Sigourney Weaver and Chris Messina.

<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt7461272/>

This historical drama is set in the late 1960s. A pregnant housewife finds out she has a potentially life-threatening illness, and the only treatment is to have an abortion.

Declined by the hospital board of directors, she sets out to find an alternative to hospital treatment. Upon finding a group who offer services to facilitate illegal abortions, she then gets more involved in the service, "Call Jane."

Call Jane is based on the true story of a network of activists who helped provide underground abortions in 1960s and 70s in Chicago. These activists called themselves "Jane," or "the Jane collective." People seeking abortions were told to "Call Jane."

As we are still living with COVID, when lining up for soup and bread, we ask that you keep a space between each other. If at all concerned for your health, please wear a mask yourself. Please reply if intending to come (sahawker13@gmail.com). Let us know if you can join us, and if you can offer soup. Suggested donation \$10.

you there!

EASTER BUNNY COOKIES



My grand-daughter Chelsea made these Easter cookies for our Easter feast. She bakes different shaped cookies for all occasions – poppies in November, Santas at Christmas, maple leaves in July, Mickey/Minnie mice for children's birthdays. They are made of sugar cookie dough with colourful icing - delicious!

- ed

VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY NEEDED AT NOVA



The NOVA Book store in Ste. Anne de Bellevue urgently needs volunteers for a 3-hour shift – morning or afternoons. It's a fun job, interesting clients to chat to and loads of wonderful books to peruse. Try it – you'll like it! Call Nada at nadaraouda@gmail.com for more information.

LUUC CONTINUES TO COLLECT NON-PERISHABLE FOOD



Sheila says: Once again, there will be a basket for donations in the LUUC lobby each Sunday. I have checked with the West Island Mission website for its most needed food donations. This is where I deliver our food contributions (and LUUCers have brought at least 4 - 8 items weekly for our basket).

Sheila noticed this article was in the Montreal Gazette on March 15th. She found it very thorough and thoughtful and has passed it along in case you didn't see it and might like to read it too:

<https://montrealgazette.com/opinion/opinion-we-may-never-be-ready-for-maid-in-cases-of-mental-illness#:~:text=After%20listening%20to%20expert%20testimony,any%20acceptable%20degree%20of%20confidence.>

McGILL LIBRARY – KNITTING IN THE STACKS



What better combination is there than knitting and books? Join McGill librarians for the launch of a new knitting pattern inspired by an item in the Rare and Special Collections. The new pattern, for “Grammar of Ornament Gloves” is available for free to all. Join librarians for a show and tell of this richly illustrated book and a peek into the crafting of a knitting pattern

based on the library collections.

[RSVP](#)

ON THE GO AND NEED TO KNOW



MONTREAL – West Island - Last January I received papers concerning the government dental plan, which I dutifully filled out. I have now received my dental card – and hope like heck that my dentist will belong to this plan, and that it is retroactive to January.



ICELAND – beautiful distraction – do go onto the net and peruse the photos of the Iceland volcanic eruptions with the aurora borealis in the background. Brilliant colours of red, blue, green, and others in between – only nature can produce such colours. There are more natural wonders promised for the afternoon of April 8th – when an almost total eclipse of the sun passes our way. You MUST wear proper protective glasses.



MARINELAND, ONT – disgraceful - Ontario says **two** more beluga whales have died at Marineland. The Ministry of the Solicitor General says the Niagara Falls, Ont., park informed that the two died sometime last month. The province did not say how the whales died. The Canadian Press has learned that sixteen beluga whales and one killer whale have died at the park since 2019 that's a total of 17 whales.



MONTREAL – dignified – Canada gave its 18th Prime Minister a dignified funeral. Brian Mulrooney died on February 29th, 2024 at the age of 84. He was a colourful man, who loomed large on the international stage. Of Irish decent, he had a touch of the Blarney with a great love of his family and his country. Known as Canada's *greenest* PM – he understood climate change long before anyone else - his successes included free trade, and supporting South Africa to abolish apartheid. He was not a perfect man – but he was a man who tried. RIP Brian Mulrooney – and may Irish eyes keep smiling.

WELCOME TO LAKESHORE

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NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: **APRIL 23RD, 2024**

OUR WEB-SITE: LUUC.org



IT'S SPRING AT LAST – HOORAY – ENJOY IT!
- **and then it snowed!**

