



The Ottawa Unitarian



April, 2002

The New CUC: Shall We be in the East or West?

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

The Canadian Unitarian Council is busy deciding how it will be structured, and has asked the three congregations in Ottawa and Kingston to indicate whether they would prefer to be part of the Eastern or Central Region.

The CUC will soon take over delivery of most services now provided by UUA Districts to congregations in Canada. That will require new staff, and a new regional structure. The proposed plan provides for four Regions: the East—Atlantic and Quebec (plus Ottawa?), Central—Ontario minus Thunder Bay (minus

See CUC REGIONS on Page 9

NOTICE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 2002
At Noon at the Church

Agenda includes (among other items):
Election of the Board
Approval of Budget for 2002
Adoption of Strategic Plan (see Page 2)

See Page 2 for correction to the
Nominations for the Board.

Unitarian House in Spring

Join Unitarian House as it heads into the spring with great anticipation. On Sunday April 14th you are invited to meet residents and Board members of Unitarian House at an information table in Fellowship Hall following the church service. Pick up our latest newsletter and other information. Annual memberships for the coming year can be purchased for \$5.00. A membership provides you with ongoing information, entitles you to vote at the AGM in the fall of 2002, and includes you as part of the 'House community'.

With the return of the birds and the longer days our gardeners have itchy fingers. Although we do have a wonderful landscaper some residents have elected to take on sections of the main gardens to make their own. Some enjoy the garden boxes.

Unitarian House has a unique location compared to other Ottawa retirement homes, as it looks over the Ottawa River and the Gatineau Hills while being close to downtown conveniences. Springtime lures residents and their visitors to ramble along the riverbank, spot the many birds and smell the flowers.

Last summer we spruced up the entrance to the 2nd floor and this year the residents in the apartments have plans for similar treatment for their entrance. There is a resident committee gathering ideas and we will soon be under way.

In June we will be co-hosting a fundraising concert. The members of the Entre Nous Choir are retired teachers who are fund-raising to

See UNITARIAN HOUSE on Page 5

Caring Committee

We listen, we phone, we bake, we drive

Contacts for April

Margot Clarke 728-2126
Christine MacDonald 828-6332



Brian Cameron

Brian Cameron, who was the administrative secretary of this church from 1988 to 1995, died in a car accident on Sunday March 10, 2002. He was 44 years old. He developed the VSOP (office volunteer) program and wrote a great VSOP handbook. He figured out how to have a calendar that actually worked for such a busy organization. His attention to detail and his friendly manner made a big difference around here. He was a devout Anglican, but he did a fine job of explaining Unitarian Universalism to inquirers. We were lucky to have him speak here last year, giving us a fascinating tour of our own hymnal. A fine organist and choral conductor, a caring and loyal friend, he will be missed by UUs, musicians, and many others.

Inside

Strategic Plan	Page 2
RE Search Committee	Page 4
RE & Music	Page 4
Social Resp.	Page 5
Holtom Lecture	Page 6
Summer Services	Page 6
UU Books	Page 7
CUC	Page 9
Announcements	Page 10
Ministers' Columns	Page 11
Sermons	Page 12
Calendar	Page 12

Place Label Here

First Unitarian Congregation
30 Cleary Avenue
Ottawa, Ontario K2A 4A1
Publication Agreement #400-48080

First Unitarian Congregation of Ottawa
30 Cleary Avenue
Ottawa, Ontario
K2A 4A1

A Member of the Unitarian Universalist
Association of Congregations

Parish Minister:

Rev. Brian Kopke 725-1066

Minister of Religious Education:

Rev. Elizabeth Benjamin 725-1066

Minister Emeritus:

Rev. Margaret Gooding

Lay Chaplains:

Ann Dunkley 745-9721

Margaret Kopke 723-2548

George Buchanan 828-0773

Valerie Cousins 722-6228

President:

Bill Van Iterson 722-8077

Director of Music:

Jane Perry 725-1066

Administrative Secretary:

Sue-Zyn Kronick 725-1066

Assistant Administrative Secretary:

Sylvia Furman 725-1066

Custodians:

Tim Roberts

Robert Latreille

Denis Vien

Religious Education Assistant:

Laurie Foster-MacLeod 725-1066

Pastoral Visitor:

Ellen Bell 725-1066

Church Office Fax Number: 725-3259

Web Page URL: <http://www.uuottawa.com>

e-mail address: office@uuottawa.com

The deadline for the May newspaper is Friday, April 12, 2002. Please put your submissions in the NEWSPAPER mail slot in the office or submit them electronically to the editor by 12:00 noon on deadline day. The newspaper team reserves the right to edit, delay or reject copy.

Newspaper Team:

Frances Curry, editor (fxcurry@sympatico.ca)

Angela Beale

Norma Hatcher

Eric Inch

Alan Todd

Roy Wood

Heavier Unitarian

You may already have noticed that this month's Unitarian is 50% larger than usual. This is in part due to a large amount of material this month. It is also an experiment of sorts.

It is hard to predict whether or not the trend towards more submissions will continue, but with all of the small group activity in the church, it is a fairly safe bet that we will need larger issues from time to time.

This month's extra pages were paid for with a donation. If you feel that you could sponsor the extra cost of printing a single larger issue (approximately \$125.00), please contact Norma Hatcher at 828-7638.

Our Strategic Plan: Where Are We Going?

Since 1998 Jack Wright has led a process to develop a Strategic Plan for our Congregation. There have been many discussions at congregational meetings and retreats and meetings of the Strategic Planning Committee and the Board. We have studied our strengths and weaknesses, learned about Large Congregations, etc., etc. A full report, of some 45 pages was prepared, edited and revised. Then it was summarized on two sides of one sheet of paper. That one page is our Strategic Plan.


Our one page Strategic Plan is now available. It was approved by the Board on February 20, 2002, "for presentation to, and adoption and implementation by, the Congregation." On April 7th, it will be presented to the Congregational Meeting for approval. It may well be that this is the first official Strategic Plan that we have had as a congregation, although processes for forward thinking are certainly not new around here! Copies of the one page Strategic Plan are being distributed on Sunday mornings. Copies of the long Strategic Planning Report are also available in the office and at the Sunday information table.

What does the Plan say?

It has ten sections, dealing with:

- Mission Statement
- Expanded Ministry and Programs to Meet the Needs of Our Members
- Growing Larger by Getting Smaller
- Growth in Membership and Commitment
- Social Responsibility
- Outreach and Denominational Responsibilities
- Finances
- Staffing
- Building and Property
- Ideas and Dreams for the Future

Get your copy and read it. Then decide how you can play a role in turning the Plan into reality.



Siam Bistro
Exotic **Thai**
Cuisine

Monika McGinnis
Owner/Operator

1288 Wellington Street
Ottawa (at Holland) K1Y 3A5
Tel: (613) 726-3111

Denominational Affairs

KELOWNA

As of July 1st the Canadian Unitarian Council will be responsible for services to UU congregations across Canada formerly looked after by the UUA. Consequently, the CUC Annual Meeting in Kelowna (May 17-20, 2002) will confront many changes and decisions in order to facilitate the take-over. We are pleased to endorse our full complement of ten voting delegates, namely: Bob Stevenson, Evelyn Frain, Don & Renee Saxon, Don Fraser, Art Read, Kerri Timofee, Elizabeth Bowen, and youth delegate, Stephen Turnbull. There is still room for one more adult member delegate. If you are determined not to miss this historic meeting, obtain registration forms from the CUC website (www.cuc.ca) or from Don Fraser at 792-3857.

QUEBEC CITY

Some 4000 UU's from Canada, U.S.A. and the world will gather in Quebec City June 20-24 for the very last UUA General Assembly to be held in Canada. About 15 volunteers from our congregation will be workers at the GA, but we still need member-delegates who must be approved by the Board. It could be your opportunity to catch the vision of how Unitarian-Universalism can meet the religious needs of our world in our times. Full information is on the website; www.uua.org/ga or talk to Don Fraser about it at 792-3897.

Correction to the Nominations for the 2002-03 Board

Cynthia Roy has declined nomination as Member at Large (second year of a two-year term). She will be replaced by Joan Auden.

Joan Auden has been a UU member since 1981. Her three adult children all attended church school here. She sings in the choir and is an experienced board member of several charitable or non-profit organizations. Joan studied social work and has worked as a grief therapist and educator, consultant and facilitator of organizational change/management.



Beebalm and Basil

Beautiful Botanicals for the Body

- * All Natural Body Care
- * Home Spa
- * Pet Care
- * Nut-free Products

Heather (613)731-1296 or Kim (613)731-1296
beebalm@webruler.com
www.webruler.com/beebalm

Unitarian Universalist - United Nations Office Seminar

NEW YORK CITY, APRIL 11-13, 2002

Title: Commit to a Just and Sustainable World

Special visit to the United Nations building.

Youth US\$ 85.00
Individual US\$175.00
Seniors US\$150.00

Contact: Marjorie Harris, 827-8588
Francis Murphy, 721-5913

(Continental breakfast, 1 lunch, 1 dinner provided)

UU/UNO Seminar

The terrible events of September 11 and their aftermath have exposed the dire consequences of global imbalance on many levels which demand our attention even as we mourn the loss of thousands and wrestle with the world's response to the attacks.

Join with other UUs from across the continent and across the generations at the UU/UNO seminar in New York, April 11-13, to explore the social, economic and environmental aspects of sustainable development, the focus of the UN World Summit in Johannesburg in the fall of 2002. Listen to experts from the UN and the NGO community. Share ideas and help draft a statement to be presented on behalf of the UUA at the Johannesburg summit. Know that together we can and must learn to "meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

Welcome to Our New Members:

Penny Christiaans and Andrea Lannin
Terry Gibbs
Selina Bishop
Mona Whitaker
Mary Jo and Graeme Jones
Mabel Ong
Samantha Shortt
Rebecca and Russell Mellett
Stephen Turnbull

Cardinal's Organic Views Are Blooming This Spring

It's not much of a stretch to see Canada's Museum of Civilization as a place of higher learning, and based on a recent conversation with the Museum's famous architect, Douglas Cardinal, it's not much of a stretch to imagine that he may have planned it that way all along.

Cardinal is firm in his belief that "most of what we call education is programming you to jump through the hoops, so in the end you've got degrees and society says you're supposed to be an expert on this or that."

If you come to the Museum on Saturday April 27 to hear Cardinal speak at a fund-raising dinner in support of Parsifal - a Waldorf school, you will learn that this soft-spoken Aboriginal man holds strong, unconventional views about a lot of things. "The mainstream view of education is a crock," he says, "because it has nothing to do with creativity, which by its very definition involves creating something from nothing."

Cardinal is not afraid to let creative, cosmic connections take place among people and the elements around them—the land, lakes and rivers, the air they breath—whenever he designs a building. In 35 years of practising what some call organic architecture, respect for people's needs has topped his list of priorities.

"I believe that allowing people to be involved in the planning of their lives, the planning of their communities, planning for the future of their children is the most important aspect of changing society for the better," he says.

Cardinal's topic for the fundraising dinner in support of the Parsifal school is *Healing Our Communities, Recreating Ourselves*. It's a subject he knows well from working with Aboriginal communities like Ouje-Bougoumou in northern Quebec. In 1991, Cardinal was invited to this community to help them develop an architectural theme for their new village, a theme that would reflect the local culture and set the tone for future building construction. In 1995, the United Nations recognized Ouje-Bougoumou as one of 50 "exemplary" communities around the world.

Although Cardinal holds numerous awards for designing large buildings, he says he still likes to work on smaller projects like schools. "It's not only the physical space (in a school) but how the space affects children psychologically," he says. "It's also how they would interact in the space, which is a sociological

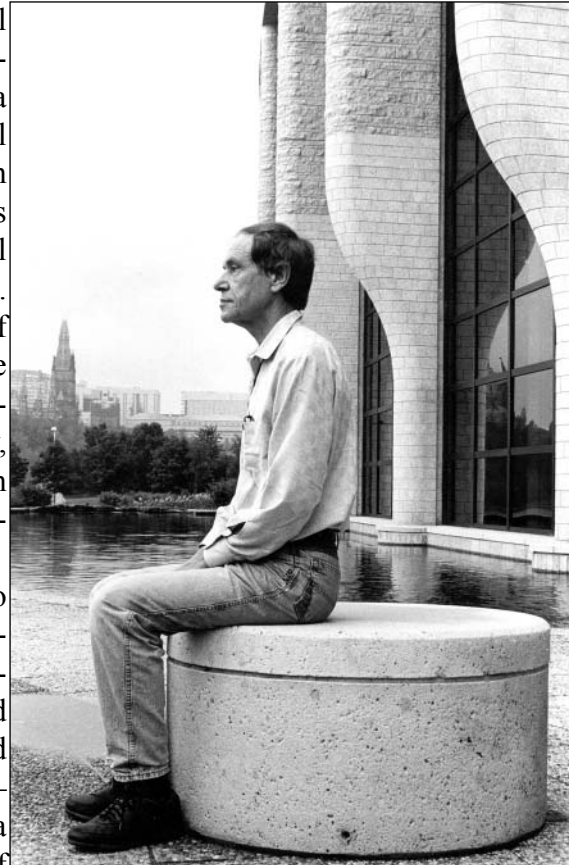
application. And it's how people would feel in the space, because we're not only analytical beings. We're beings with feelings, and that's the most important part about human beings, the feeling and emotional part."

In both the European-based and Aboriginal communities Cardinal traverses, the 68-year-old Order of Canada recipient believes that "what we don't know, as human beings, is very, very vast...it's the knowledge which is unknown that's the land of all possibility."

To hear more about Cardinal's views on architecture, education and community-building, come to the April 27 dinner. A silent auction will also be held.

To buy tickets to the dinner/fundraiser, please contact Parsifal at 733-2668. Ask for Rachel Montgomery. Waldorf education embraces a holistic approach to children's education that includes an emphasis on creative development and the building of self-esteem, with a strong connection to the arts, nature and the outdoors.

Submitted by
Debra Huron



Goldie Josephy

Members of Ottawa's First Unitarian Congregation were saddened to learn of the death of Goldie Josephy, a former member.

Goldie Josephy was very active in the church and in the peace movement. In the early 1970s, she was instrumental in bringing Dr. Benjamin Spock, noted child psychologist and pacifist, to Ottawa to speak against the war in Vietnam.

Goldie died in Guelph in mid-March at the age of 78.

ROUND TABLE LUNCH

Friday, April 19 at 1:00 pm

at

Denny's Restaurant

1380 Clyde Ave., Ottawa

(Our lunch location is moving south)

Everyone welcome

Call by previous evening to reserve a space to : Tudy McLaine 745-8074

Brian Cowan 829-7986



Musical Notes

BEING A UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST PARENT

As we wait for the technical difficulties with the UU parenting listserv (internet discussion) to be sorted out, let's really get together to discuss the joys and challenges of being liberal religious parents (and grandparents, aunts or uncles, or adult friends). Meet with the Rev. Liz Benjamin and other caring adults to consider ideas about God/Goddess, life and death, and how Unitarian Universalism can inspire ourselves and our children to be good people. The discussion will be on Saturday April 13, 10 am to 1 pm, with childcare and soup provided. Bring a contribution for a potluck lunch. Please sign up by the RE table or upstairs.

ART SHOW AND REGISTRATION FOR 2002-2003

Come to Fellowship Hall on Sunday April 28, to see the annual RE Art Show, with creative presentations by many of the groups and individuals here, expressing themes and values they have been discussing all year. At the same time and place, sign up your children for their RE groups next year. The more families who sign up in advance, the better we will be able to plan for the future. This is also your chance to sign up to be an RE teacher or a youth advisor. You do not have to be a parent to teach. Age or theological expertise are not important. Enthusiasm and willingness to learn and grow are. It is very important that we fill all the teaching spots this spring, as the new religious educator will not be able to recruit teachers this year, not knowing the congregation yet. If you have ever considered reaping the rewards of time with our interesting and lovely children and youth, for the sake of First Unitarian Congregation, this is the time to get involved!

Teacher and Advisor Breakfast

Youth advisors and religious education teachers are invited to a special breakfast in their honour on Sunday May 5, at 9:30 am in Fellowship Hall. You have contributed so much this year to our young people's religious growth and learning. Please accept some bagels, croissants, and other goodies as a token of our appreciation. You can choose a book from the Children's Library to be labeled in recognition of your service. We will have a ceremony in the worship service that day as well. Please RSVP to the Rev. Liz Benjamin.

CHAMBER MUSIC SERIES 2001 - 2002 wraps up in April with two magnificent concerts.

Friday, April 5 at 7:30 pm

LES GOUTS-REUNIS: a captivating program of Baroque music with
Frederic Hodgson, oboe
Angela Casagrande, oboe
Sonja Deunsch-Plourde, harpsichord
Ben Glossop, bassoon

Saturday, April 20 at 7:30 pm

TONE CLUSTER CHAMBER CHOIR
Jane Perry, conductor
(and Rev. Liz Benjamin in the alto section!)
Tone Cluster will present a program called *SEASONS OF LIFE : Music for the Seasons* with special guest Oya vocal improvisation ensemble.

Individual tickets (available NOW at the church office): \$10, \$5, pay-what-you-can option.

If you haven't been to any of our chamber music concerts this season, why not come out and see what you've been missing?

SING OUT! Come and join conductors Jane Perry and Diane Schmolka for a one-time choir called SING OUT! We're looking for all interested singers to participate in a choir whose members will be drawn from the congregations of both the Fellowship and the First Unitarian. This choir will rehearse twice, and then participate in worship services at both congregations. To join, simply show up to the rehearsals—no audition necessary!

Rehearsal schedule (both rehearsals will be at the First Unitarian Congregation):

Thursday, April 11 at 7:30pm
Thursday, April 18 at 7:30pm

Worship Service

Sunday, April 21 at 10:30am at the Fellowship (Colonel By Secondary School, Ogilvie Rd.)

Sunday, April 28 at 10:30am at the First Unitarian Congregation.

For more information, please speak with Jane Perry (725-1066). Please join us: it's free, it's fun, and it's for everyone!

SPRING CONCERT! The Music Program will be presenting its Spring Concert on Sunday, May 5 at 2:30 pm in Worship Hall. Participants will include the Adult Choir, Children's Choir, Gospel Choir and some special guests. Tickets (available NOW in the church office): \$10 regular, \$5 senior/student, pay-what-you-can option. \$20 family rate.

This event is a fundraiser for the First Unitarian Congregation, so come on out, bring your friends and support your church!

RE Search Committee Update

We are seeking an Interim Minister or Director of Religious Education in preparation for the comprehensive task of finding a long term Minister of Religious Education. This person will address the educational and spiritual growth of our congregation.

This month, the Board sent our application for an Interim Minister to the Unitarian Universalist Association. The U.U.A's Department of Ministry Ministerial Settlement Office exposes interested Interim Ministers and seeking congregations to one another. The formal U.U.A. process may not find the religious leader we need at this time. Therefore we extended the search into less formal routes. For example, we placed advertisements in the Unitarian theological schools, Unitarian churches in Britain, the C.U.C, St. Lawrence District churches, and religious education chat rooms. We now await the statements from interested Interim Ministers, or Directors of Religious Education.

In the coming weeks the Search Committee will receive letters of interest and identify those applicants who appear to meet our needs. These special applicants will be mailed a comprehensive package designed to inform them about our congregation and to attract them to the Ottawa area. We believe that the right person will possess a personality which will influence the experience of religious education for our member families and the congregation as a whole, while nourishing his or her own spiritual growth.

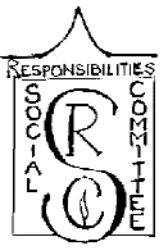
Further information can be obtained from our Search Committee chairperson Laura Evans at ottaware@magma.ca.

**Ellen R. Bell BA, BSW, RSW
Counsellor**

613 - 831 - 5205

286 - 0462 (cell) mcolby@magma.ca

General counselling, mental health, anti-homophobia and diversity workshops, grief counselling. All welcome



Nanoose Bay Expropriation Overturned!

B.C. Environment Groups have succeeded in overturning Federal expropriation of the provincially owned seabed at Nanoose Bay. The Hon. Justice Campbell (of the Federal Court Trial Division) agreed with the plaintiff—the Society Promoting Environmental Conservation (SPEC), that the expropriation was unlawful.

The Nanoose Seabed was expropriated by the Federal Government in September 2000 after the province refused to lease the seabed to the Federal Government without guarantees that no nuclear weapons be brought into the area. The Peace and Disarmament (P&D) Working Group brought the issue to the Congregation's attention at its Summer service August 2000 when Dr. Marguerite Ritchie spoke very eloquently on the subject.

We are extremely pleased with the ruling . The next hurdle is to ensure that the Federal Government complies with the ruling.

According to David Cadman, President of SPEC, "Major American ports have banned nuclear weapons from entering—yet Canada continues to let the US test nuclear weapons within our waters. The presence of nuclear weapons in Canadian ports is no more necessary to meet our obligations in NATO than landmines are."

The P&D and Environment Working Groups will write to the Federal Government and the BC Provincial Government requesting that the ruling be complied with.

Letters for signing will be made available at the SRC table.

Environmental Working Group

UNITARIAN HOUSE : Continued from Page 1

build a high school in Haiti. They will be performing on Wednesday June 12 at the Unitarian Church and the proceeds will be divided between their project and Unitarian House. Evelyn Janis, the choir leader, is a long-time volunteer at Unitarian House and plays the piano on Mondays at afternoon tea. Please check out the ad for this event elsewhere in this paper.

Among our various activities we have hosted a group from Japan who have come over once or twice a year for the past seven or eight years to study the history and operation of Unitarian House. This week they joyfully sent us a floor plan and a city map showing their proposed site in Tokyo.

We encourage you to join one of the monthly tours of Unitarian House and to feel the great atmosphere. Book a tour by contacting Nancy at 722-6690.

Take the Poverty Challenge!!

Could you exist on \$37.00 weekly? This is the amount that people dependent on Ontario Works receive from their government for total living expenses.

The Ontario Disability Support and Ontario Works programs have not allowed a Cost of Living allowance increase since 1995. In fact there has been a 21.6% cut for people on the Ontario Works program.

Do you think that all Canadian children are assured a decent start in life? Then think again. Statistics for the year 2000 show that the number of Ottawa homeless people each night was 800, with one in seven being children, and more are on the street now.

Ponder on the many myths concerning the poor of Canada, many of whom live in our own affluent locale. There are now 87 food banks in the city of Ottawa.

If you are somewhat worried about the answer to these and other questions, you are not alone, for many of us are throwing our arms up in the air and wondering, "Can we afford the social programs needed to eliminate poverty?"

The poor of our city need your help! At the present time our church community does not have a committee directly concerned with poverty but there are some things you can do.

1. You could start a group in our church to focus on poverty, and find like-minded people to help.
2. You can join with existing groups in your area of the city who are diligently working to find a way to combat poverty.
3. You can contact the Social Responsibility Committee or the Minorities Awareness Group of First Unitarian for further information or reference to existing groups focused on poverty in the city.

*Joycelyn Loeffelholz-Rea
Minorities Awareness Group*

Coming to Fellowship Hall

Wednesday Evening, May 22, 2002

A Spring Art Auction: Building for the Future

Join us to mingle with friends and enjoy refreshments while choosing a piece of Art for your home, office or as a gift for a special friend.

MC: Dave Stephens, Host of CBC's Ontario Today
Light Classics & Jazz with Pianist: Jane Perry
Tickets \$10.00 in advance or \$12.00 at the door



(Proceeds to benefit the Early Childhood Partnership including River Parkway Pre-School Centre's Building Fund.)

UNICAMP Wants You!

CALLING ALL ASPIRING MAINTENANCE BUFFS

UNICAMP is looking for a MAINTENANCE APPRENTICE to work with and receive training from our Maintenance Co-ordinator for Summer 2002 with the opportunity for a promotion to Maintenance Co-ordinator for Summer 2003.

Applicants should have experience in maintenance, with the desire to learn more in the following areas:

- ◆ Maintaining all camp equipment and systems
- ◆ Performing minor repairs, indoors and outdoors
- ◆ Maintaining the grounds, including grass-mowing, cutting and storing firewood
- ◆ Garbage collection
- ◆ Setting up and closing down all camp systems at start and end of season
- ◆ Monitoring and maintaining water system
- ◆ Supervising and team work
- Etc!!

Salary will reflect age and level of expertise (and will be higher than a Junior Staff position).

The Apprenticeship will improve your resume.

This is great preparation for your future, with the prospect of Maintenance Co-ordinator of Unicamp for summers to come.

For more information please call Eileen Ormond, Administration Chair, Unicamp at (416) 944-9637 or send her your resume with a cover letter, including 2 references to:

65 Howland Ave.
Toronto, ON
M5R 3B2



Rosemary Brown-Tucker RMT
CranioSacral Therapy



Dr. Michael Tucker BSC, DC
Doctor of Chiropractic

◇ CranioSacral Therapy
◇ Network Chiropractic
New Gentle Approaches
with powerful healing



**NETWORK CHIROPRACTIC
HEALING CENTRE**
16 Richmond Road (near
Island Park)
725-0988

Workshop on Small Group Leadership.

Saturday, April 27, 9:00 am to 12:00 noon, First Unitarian Congregation of Ottawa.

George Buchanan will lead this half day workshop on leading small groups in a Unitarian Universalist congregation. Suitable for members and friends who are currently leading committees, study groups, or other small groups in this congregation, and for those interested in doing so. This workshop will help with the practical use of the ideas George presented in his March 10, 2002 sermon on 'Appreciative Community'.

Workshop topics include:

- 1) nurturing and protecting respect and caring in small groups
- 2) using group covenants
- 3) handling difficult topics
- 4) the possibility of appreciative community.

Call George at 828-0773 for more details, and look for the sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall.

Kilometrestones

Best wishes to:

Ken Deane on his 90th birthday.

Phyllis Grigg celebrating a special birthday.

Wishing a speedy recovery to:

Gary Campbell who has broken his leg.

Quinn Fenton as he recuperates from surgery.

Caren Roberts as she recuperates from surgery.

Condolences to:

Doug Robinson, Bernadette Kaye, Monique, Victor, Jean Luc and Armand on the passing of their grandfather and great grandfather.

Anna Dunkley on the recent passing of her dear sister.

Ted and Kathie Elliott on the passing of Ted's mother, Grace Elliott.

The family of the late Betty Kilgour.

Penny Christiaans on the passing of her dear father.

Gladys Pfeffer on the passing of her dear husband Bill Pfeffer.

Fern Cameron on the tragic and untimely death of her dear son Brian Cameron, to Ian MacKay and to the Congregation of Glebe-St. James United Church.

The family of the late May Farnsworth.

Hospitality Appeal

One or more of our summer speakers (see article on this page) will require overnight hospitality. If you can provide this in your home, please contact Don Fraser (792-3857).

Upcoming Holtom Lecture

Monday, April 22 at 8:00 pm

In Worship Hall

Christopher Westdal

Canadian Ambassador for Disarmament to the United Nations

Will speak about the present status of arms control and the nuclear non-proliferation treaty.

Free Admission
Refreshments to follow

2002 HOLTOM LECTURE

Edith Holtom's life and work are a fine example of active dedication to peace and a better world. She became a committed activist for peace during WWI when her husband was away serving in the war and she was alone with two young children. In her own words she says "Being a mother of two small boys at that time, the thought that they might be called upon by the State to murder other mothers' children haunted me." Subsequently she bore two more boys. All four sons served in WWII.

It would require a full biography to do justice to all of Edith Holtom's peace related activities. Suffice to say that she was the founder and president of the Ottawa Peace Council (1949-'69) and worked tirelessly throughout her life to support the stated principles of the UN Charter and the prohibition of the atomic bomb. At her death in 1973, in her memory, her family established a fund at the Unitarian Church to finance regular public lectures on peace issues.

It is therefore appropriate that the Holtom Lecturer this year is Christopher Westdal, Canadian Ambassador for Disarmament. Ambassador Westdal was born and raised in Winnipeg. After obtaining a BA and MBA he joined the Canadian International Development Agency in 1970. Later, through 1982-'93 he was successively: High Commissioner to Bangladesh; Director-general, international organizations bureau at External Affairs; Ambassador to South Africa. In 1994 he became Ambassador for Disarmament. Following this he was Ambassador to the Ukraine, and from 1998-'99 Special advisor for African strategy.

Since 1999 he has returned to his work on non-proliferation and disarmament issues, presently serving as Canadian Disarmament Ambassador in Geneva.

Recently, in 2000 he completed a cross-Canada speaking tour. The title of his talk was 'How I learned to start worrying and stop loving the bomb', to gain support for Canada's position on the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Review at the UN and NATO's review later that year. He strongly supported nuclear disarmament and opposed the US National Missile Defence initiative.

The Unitarian Peace & Disarmament and

Summer Services

Just a glimpse of the great roster of speakers with interesting topics for the Sundays this summer.

June 23, we anticipate a wonderful musical service with Jim Scott, who will have given Green Sanctuary workshop/concerts at the GA in Quebec City. **June 30** we expect two UU minister-delegates to the GA from the West returning by Ottawa to bring us their vision of the future for UU's going it alone in Canada.

July 7 several delegates and volunteers will share their exciting experiences of the GA in Quebec. **July 14** the Youth delegates to the UN in New York will be invited to report. **July 21** Don Fraser will build a worship service around the liturgical legacy of Ken Patton, late minister of the Universalist Charles Street Meeting House. **July 28** the Baha'i poetry group with leader Chuck Rea will inspire us.

August 4 Dr. A.S. Sethi [a member since 1995] will speak on *Business Ethics and Leaders*, the theme of one of his published books.

September 1, Rev. Vernon Nichols and his wife, Sue, will again shape a service on a United Nations theme. Some Sundays in August still are open. If you or your group wish to contribute please contact Don Fraser early this month. Phone 792-3857 or email leedon@sympatico.ca

Cards to Peg Gooding

The Rev. Peg Gooding, our minister emerita, is well and living in an assisted living facility in Modesto, California. Her memory is failing, but she seems cheerful. She enjoys receiving mail, but letters are too much for her. Postcards would be much appreciated. Please send them to her at 1635 Molly Lane, Ceres, California, 95307.

Joan Auden & Associates

Joan Auden, m.s.w., r.s.w.

Grief Therapist and Educator
Children and Adults

Jean Murray, m.s.w., r.s.w.

Individual/Couple/Family Counselling
169 Cameron Ave, Ottawa, K1S 0X2
tel: (613) 730-1716

the UU-UNO Working Groups are jointly sponsoring the 2002 Holtom Lecture. We are honoured and delighted that Ambassador Westdal has agreed to be our speaker on a topic of great public concern: The present status of arms control and the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

Angela Beale
Peace and Disarmament Working Group

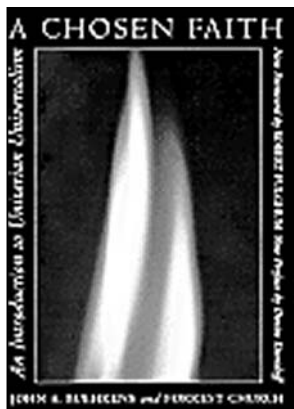
Wide Selection of UU Books at Sunday Morning Book Table

Our collection of books on the subject of Unitarian Universalism is extensive. Open every Sunday at coffee hour, the Unitarian Book Table displays this wide selection of UU books directly in front of the large wooden bookcase.

There are many new and updated books for your enjoyment. Whether you are a newcomer looking for information about our denomination, or whether you are a long-time Unitarian looking for inspiration, there is something to meet your needs.

A Chosen Faith : An Introduction to Unitarian Universalism

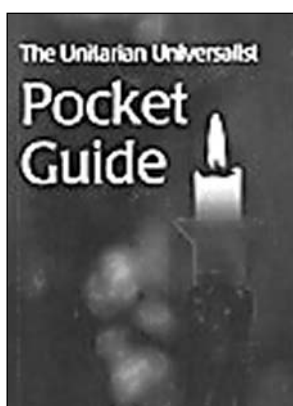
By John A. Buehrens and Forrest Church
240 pp. \$18*



This thought-provoking, entertaining sourcebook is designed for searchers, newcomers and lifelong UU's. Written by two highly respected Unitarian ministers and leaders, topics include: awakening, experience, no creeds, UU history, community and expectations. A new section explores earth-centred traditions. Forward by Robert Fulghum, preface by Denise Davidoff.

The Unitarian Universalist Pocket Guide

Third Edition
Edited by John Buehrens
120 pp \$8

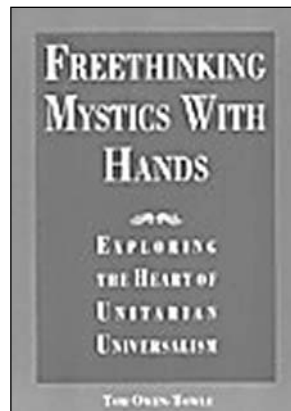


This is another useful and concise guide to Unitarian Universalism. Topics include: faith, roots, worship, religious education and important dates in UU history. It makes a great gift

for anyone new to our denomination and also helps encapsulate what is sometimes described as a hard religion to explain.

Freethinking Mystics With Hands : Exploring the Heart of Unitarian Universalism

By Tom Owen-Towle
96 pp. \$15



This collection of inspiring essays balances our religion's rational, mystical and activist elements. It is a valuable resource for small group discussion, family sharing and Sunday worship. It is also an excellent introduction to UUism for newcomers.

Morning Watch Meditations

By Barbara Pescan
64 pp \$8



This beautiful volume of meditations is just one of the annual collections published since 1961 by Skinner House Press. In it, Barbara Pescan writes inquisitive, masterful poetry, which speaks to us about our relationships, the passing of time and the workings of the natural world. With gentle, quiet wonderings and sometimes-painful longings, these reverent observations invite a potent sense of connection with all things.

More meditation manuals

These lovely meditation manuals are one of our book table's best-kept secrets. Priced between \$8 and \$10 they give great value and provide inspiration and a sense of renewal. Other excellent meditation manuals that can be purchased at our Book Table include:

Out of the Ordinary

By Gordon B. McKeeman

A Temporary State of Grace

By David S. Blanchard

Glad to Be Human

By Kaaren Solveig Anderson

Green Mountain Spring And Other Leaps of Faith

By Gary A. Lowalski

Glory, Hallelujah!

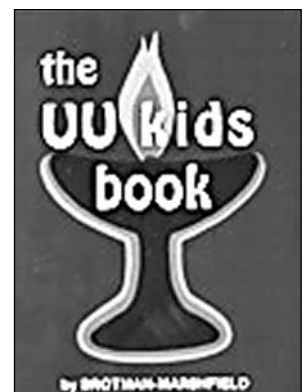
Now Please Pick Up Your Socks

By Jane Ellen Mauldin

Take a look at these titles at coffee hour next Sunday.

UU Kids book

By Charlene Brotman, Ann Fields, Barbara Marshfield
148 pp \$21



This playful, fun-filled workbook is a great resource for parents or grandparents of UU children. It is informative about Unitarian Universalism and highly entertaining with drawings, pictures, puzzles, songs, cartoons and crafts. It is also a great way to introduce UU history and beliefs to children. Aimed at ages 8- 12 years.

Submitted by Valerie Cousins

Only the Best Books

We buy hard cover books.

www.onlythebest.ca

Let us help you make room for new books
(We specialize in cookbooks and handwork books)

info@onlythebest.ca
(819)827-3743

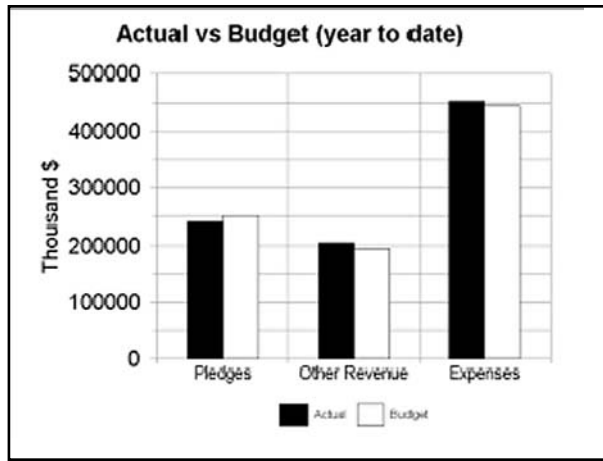
Frances Curry

Financial Report 2001 Year End

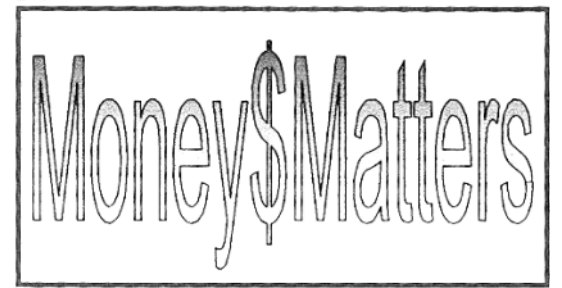
The financial transactions for 2001 have now been completed and analysed. On the Revenue side, in total, we are pretty well on budget—actually \$799 higher than budget. We were under budget by \$9,000 on regular donations to cover operating expenses and under by \$7,500 in Additional Contributions. However, these were offset by higher than budgeted revenues from Rentals (\$6,600) and Fundraising (\$11,800).

On the Expenditure side, we were over budget by \$12,600 on salaries, largely due to the amount of work done by the custodians in maintaining the building. Other expenses were pretty well on or under budget, with only minor variances. Total Expenditures were \$8,000 over budget.

The net result is to end the year 2001 with a \$7,257 deficit. This deficit does not include \$2,194 in Capitalized Items purchased, which are not normally charged to the year's operations.



	Actual		Budget Year To Date
	Month	Year To Date	
Donations (Oper.)	-500	241,078	250,000
Other Revenue	-4,357	205,321	195,620
Total Revenues	-4857	446,399	445,620
Expenses	2,992	453,656	445,620
Surplus (deficit)	-7,848	-7,257	



The end of the year can be difficult for many people; money can be tight because of the holidays. In spite of all the competing demands for money in November and December, the Congregation asked you to make your pledge for 2002 during that time. With the exceptional leadership and inspiration provided by Jane Lindsay and Barry Read, the Congregation has received pledges totalling \$255,000. Thank-you Jane and Barry.

The pledge total is significant because the final budget for 2002 is not as gloomy as the preliminary budget presented in October last year. Compared to the preliminary budget, the resources available to the RE program have increased by \$15,000 because of the anticipated increase in donations to the operating fund. In plain English, the final budget for 2002 has cut less money from the RE program than first expected, because people in the Congregation pledged to give more money. Hooray and thank-you everyone.

If you don't already have a copy of the program budget for 2002, get a copy and review it before the April 7 General Meeting. The Congregation will be asked to approve this budget at that meeting and you can make better and more informed decisions if you've looked at the material in advance.

At the General Meeting, your new and continuing board members will be introduced. You will meet the new Treasurer—Barry Read. You will not meet the associate and assistant treasurers. Beginning this year, there will be more behind-the-scene financial activity. The three assistant treasurers, Elspeth Read, Suzanne Ahlers and Margot Clarke will graciously continue their weekly tasks of recording and depositing weekly donations and other income, preparing cheques, and keeping the ledger. In addition, the Treasurer's responsibilities have been divided into four, with Barry taking on the bulk of the work. However, three smaller duties will be carried out by new associate treasurers. Art Read will look after updating the bank account status, Kerri Timoffee will update the pay information and Ahti Tolvanen and Kerri together will keep track of the Congregation's investments.

After the President and excluding the Ministers, the Treasurer's job is perhaps the most time consuming. It was quite difficult to find a volunteer to take on this position so instead of recruiting one volunteer, Margaret Linton and the Finance Committee recruited four! Together they will work diligently to keep the finances of the Congregation in order.

If You Experience Trouble Contacting the Church

From time to time people have had problems accessing the church by phone, fax, or e-mail. A few comments . . . The congregation has three phone lines. The third line is shared by internet access (e-mail, downloading program updates, virus signatures, web site work, etc.), the fax, and the ministers (for longer calls). The other two lines are available for all remaining calls. When you can not get through to the third line to send a fax, try again later. The ministers may be making a long counselling call or there is e-mail work being carried out. After five pm we may be using the fax line to send an automated fax for publicity. This calls over 40 locations in town ranging from TV and radio to newspaper and community locations and sends a fax advertising some event at the congregation. The entire operation may take several hours! The key is persistence and patience. In a world of immediate gratification, we cannot measure up—we don't have enough money to install more phone lines at business rates.

Some people have had e-mails bounced back. Here is how we handle this. If there are only a few emails bounced back (a daily occurrence) but we are receiving e-mail from other people, we do not believe there is anything we can do about the problem. It could be in phone lines, switches, relays in Miami or Denver (who knows where an e-mail has been before it arrives), servers along the way which have reached capacity, etc. On the other hand, if we are receiving no e-mail, we take action and call our server and the host for our web pages. They have either helped us fix the problem at

the church or informed us of problems at their site which can range from too many calls at once, to maintenance work. Please be patient. We listen, but if we are receiving all e-mails but yours, we can not fix the problem—it may be your problem.

In February we switched web site hosts because ours had been identified as a spammer! Shame! We are now hosted at Canaca.com in Toronto which has a no spam policy and offers more web site space and greater mail possibilities for the same price as our old site. Some of your servers, which do not accept mail from sites which spam, may still have our name associated with the spamming host. You must call your server to have the name cleared—this is what we have been told. We cannot do that.

Remember that your congregation is a busy place, 600 plus adults, scores of renters, over 77 groups, each with its own need for fax and phone and e-mail, contacts with denominations, suppliers for property, custodians and the office, calls about weddings, memorials and child namings, enquiries about Unitarianism and all the meetings and programs which we and our renters put on at the church, etc.

There is a new joke about us, not really funny, but true. How are a Unitarian congregation, health care, and a bank alike? You have to wait in line to get something done. Patience and persistence pay off—staff will help when they can, but we cannot solve all problems.

Highlights of the CUC Board Meeting Jan 25-27, 2002 in Toronto

Implementation Task Force (ITF)

Report: Several hours were spent discussing and amending the second draft of *Of Regions and RINGS*. The Board agreed unanimously to support the ITF's proposed organization for the 'new' CUC. Three new full-time staff members will be hired.

Governance Issues: Board members Kim Turner, Elizabeth Bowen and Heather Lunergan agreed to review the Board's governance and policy manual which follows the Carver model, and report to the Board in May 2002.

UUA/CUC News: Olivia Holmes, the UUA's Director of International Relations, attended most of the board meeting and the UUA/CUC Transition Team meeting that followed the board meeting. Financial matters were discussed at both meetings. Some money issues including the exact amount to be transferred from the UUA to the CUC will not be settled in full until close to July 1 due to fluctuating exchange rates.

Endowment Campaign: The CUC will launch a major fundraising campaign probably in early 2003. The campaign is being organized by Barbara Bowmar and Kim Turner with the assistance of Paul Mack, a professional fund-raiser who has worked with several UU congregations in Canada. Mr. Mack's firm will undertake an initial study to determine the best way to carry out the campaign and report to the Board by October 2002.

Financial Policies and Procedures:

Board Treasurer, Keith Jobson, is reviewing and updating our policies and procedures. The Board will consider his recommendations at its meeting in May.

Investment Committee: The following committee members were confirmed: Arn Westly, John Taylor, Mary Ann Higgs and Lee Dickey. Keith Jobson is currently Chair, and one more member may join the committee.

Policies and procedures for this committee are being developed.

Youth Issues: The Board heard a presentation by Stephen Turnbull and Andrew Bullis, members of the Ottawa Youth Group, on issues related to youth

activities after July 1. The Board acknowledged that money must be available for continued youth activities within Canadian congregations—funds will likely come from the Lifespan Learning budget.

Ministry & Lay Chaplaincy: A Theological Education Funds Committee that will receive and review applications for assistance was established. Rev. Katie Stein Sather will chair the committee.

Principles and Sources: The Board received UUA permission to adapt its seven principles and six sources. Delegates to the AGM will be asked to approve this action as well as English and French versions of these documents, and the version for all ages, in both English and French.

*Elizabeth Bowen
CUC Board member*

The Board heard a presentation by Stephen Turnbull and Andrew Bullis, members of the Ottawa Youth Group, on issues related to youth activities

volunteer generalist "Networkers" and specialist "Consultants".

The Board looked closely at the two regions. Our first inclination was to feel that we were Ontarians, and thus should lean to the West. Our neighbours in the Central (Ontario) Region are: four small congregations east of Toronto (total about 260 members); five congregations, some large, some small, in the Toronto area (756 members); and west of Toronto, from Hamilton to Sarnia, nine congregations (775 members). Even without us, Central Region would be the biggest of the four Regions in Canada.

The Eastern Region is quite different. In the Atlantic area, there are only five congregations, with a total of 284 members. In Quebec, there are three congregations, two in the Montreal area, and one very small, at North Hatley, near Sherbrooke, in the Eastern Townships (total 301 members). By comparison, the two congregations in Ottawa have about 660 members. Clearly, the Atlantic area congregations are far too small to be a region on their own. The Atlantic plus Quebec would form a small region, with two poles, one in Montreal and one in the Atlantic area. The addition of the Ottawa congregations would make the Eastern Region much stronger and more diverse.

After careful consideration, the Board concluded that the congregations in Ottawa and Montreal have a lot in common, and could all benefit a lot from a close working relationship between them. It was noted that Montreal is just two hours down the road, much closer than Toronto. As for the five small Atlantic congregations, they are resourceful and do a lot on their own, but they would also be able to gain many ideas and resources from an association with the Montreal and Ottawa churches. In reverse, we in Ottawa can learn and benefit from contact with small congregations with their own unique styles and energy. In contrast, the Board members felt that it was less likely that a relationship could be developed with the group of congregations in the Toronto area, or the London area, that would create the same amount of mutual benefit. It was noted that our Congregation can and will always be able to contact directly the two or three largest Canadian congregations, with whom we have the most in common, to share ideas.

Thus, the Board voted that we indicate a preference for joining the Eastern Region. The representative from the Fellowship agreed with this decision. The Board also decided to seek comments and feedback from our Congregation about this plan, before officially informing the CUC of our views. Your comments are invited. Please contact a member of the Board, or leave a note in the President's box in the office, by Sunday April 14, 2002.

Bill Van Iterson, Board President.

Youth Sponsors Needed for Kelowna

The Unitarian Fellowship of Kelowna is not only arranging the CUC AGM at the beautiful Okanagan University College Campus, the Fellowship is also hosting a Youth weekend program in its lovely downtown Kelowna Church building. More than 50 UU youth are expected. Some of our Youth would like to go but cannot afford the expense. So we are calling for sponsors. If you would like to sponsor or co-sponsor a member of our Youth Group to join the CUC delegates at Kelowna the long May weekend, please contact Denominational Affairs Chair, Don Fraser, at 792-3857

CUC REGIONS : *Continued from Page 1*

Ottawa?), the Prairies, and B.C.

At the March 6 meeting of the Board the question of which Region we should belong to was considered carefully and at length. Ken Lund, vice president of the Ottawa UU Fellowship joined us for the discussion, and Elizabeth Bowen, our member on the CUC Board, provided valuable information and guidance.

It took some time to get a good perspective on the issue. We tried to understand what difference it would make whether we are in one region or another, and learned that it will not affect the services we receive from paid CUC staff. Nor will it affect how we are represented at CUC annual meetings. Our choice of region will have a great effect on which congregations we communicate with the most. When we choose the congregations that will be with us in a Region, we choose the congregations with whom we will communicate most often to share information, ideas, and the services of

UUWF - Women's Adventure and Discovery Group

Thursday April 4th: Dr. Michael Tucker of the Network Chiropractic Healing Centre will speak to us about Network Chiropractic.

Thursday April 18th: *Beginning with Skating* - one of our own members, Trudi Kassner, will talk about her life experiences: before emigrating from Europe; in the United States; and finally, in Canada.

(Meetings are from 10 am till noon in the Lounge)

Note: We are presently booked for the Governor General's Tour and picnic in the grounds for Thursday, May 30th.

Time and Talent Auction 2002—Part of the Spring Extravaganza!

Are you an avid gardener? Do you have a cottage you can share for a day? Can you help someone translate a document? Cook a special dinner or host a barbeque? Babysit? Make beautiful music? Paint a room? Write a love poem? We need your talent!

The time and talent auction, one of the favourite fundraisers for the Congregation, is coming on Sunday May 5, 2002. We need your talents and your time, and we need your help! This is a fun way to meet people who share your interests, while contributing to our Congregation.

Here's how you can help: offer time or talent to be auctioned; solicit contributions; help on the day of the auction as an auctioneer or a runner; help with set-up and clean-up; come and participate!

This year, we all have several reasons to participate. Immediately following worship, the Partner Church Committee will offer their spring lunch. Then we'll have the auction. After that, for your entertainment, the Choir will perform its spring concert. Mark your calendars, and let us know how you'd like to be involved.

To offer your talent and/or your help, call David Gero at 728-5380, or e-mail him at dave@havidave.com.

Wanted:

People to help promote our congregation at the LGX (Lesbian and Gay Exposition) on Saturday, April 20. FMI, call Ellen Bell at 831-5205.

SHIRTS...SHIRTS...

SHIRTS...SHIRTS...

The Shirts Are Coming...

This is a fund-raiser with tangible rewards; a logo especially designed for our congregation, choice of colours, good quality T-shirts and sport shirts that will be available for purchase soon.

WATCH FOR DATES IN THE ORDER OF SERVICE.

Invitation

You are cordially invited
to a Spring Sale and Show

Sunday, April 21st
in Fellowship Hall

The Crafty Crafters will offer
Individual, hand-crafted :
spring and summer
wardrobe treasures,
enhancements for your home
and cottage,
gift items,
spring greeting cards, and
other fabulous articles.

Also, come see a preview of what will be
new in our sewing area for Fall Fair 2002.

A Circle of Friends

Interested in making new friends, socializing, sharing meals/recreation, having fun, discovering issues of your spiritual journey? Join 8 or 9 others in a Circle of Friends group for regular gatherings beginning in April. Leaders are Jack and Sharon Wright. Register at church (725-1066) or with the Wrights (733-7792).

New Yoga Series

Anyone can practise yoga, young, old, sick or fit. Try it and see the benefits for yourself. Yoga is relaxing and calming and you move at your own pace. All levels.

Classes begin April 8 and end June 24, Mondays, 6:30 pm. The fee is \$77.00 for all 11 classes. For more information, or to register, call Marjorie Harris at 827-8588.

Tuesday Afternoon Men's Group

The Tuesday Afternoon Men's Group will meet in the Corner Room on Tuesday April 9 at 1:30 pm. David Wood will lead a discussion on the Dead Sea Scrolls. Ladies will be welcome. Contact Glyn Edwards at 731-6127.

Seniors' Lunch Program

The Seniors' Lunch Program will be held on April 24th at 11:00 am, starting in Fellowship Hall. Our own Joan Kabayama will be speaking to us about *The Challenges of Being a Senior in Japan*. The service will be led by Renee Saxon.

New members are always welcome.

For further information call:

Susan Van Iterson at 722 - 8077

Kathie Elliott at 822 - 8881

It's a Bargain!

You can still purchase a copy of the video *Religious Education Spans a Lifetime* for only \$12.00 at the book table until the end of May. A great gift for family and friends especially if you or your children are in the video. The People's Co-Op Bookstore will continue to sell the video for \$15.00 plus shipping and handling charges.

Introduction to Unitarianism

Starting on Thursday, April 4, 7:30 - 9:30 pm, and going for four weeks, Rev. Kopke will lead a group exploring the roots and foundations of Unitarianism and Universalism. We will share our own stories, learn history, and discuss theology and some of the great questions of life. Sign up in Fellowship Hall or the West Lobby.



McGarry Family of Funeral Homes & Cremation Centres

Hulse, Playfair & McGarry

- 315 McLeod Street
- 150 Woodroffe Avenue
- 1200 Ogilvie Road

Memorial/Simplicity Plan®
584 Somerset St. W.

McGarry Chapel/Crematorium
Wakefield

233-1143

www.hpmc.ca

hpmc@intranet.ca

Walking the Tideline

Edward Abbey, a bright, articulate man who ran rivers, hiked deserts, and read voraciously, wrote many observant and insightful books, all filled with passion for the world. He was not afraid to decry humankind's foolishness.

While rafting the Colorado River his thoughts turned to Thoreau, the icon of wilderness sojourns. It is strange what history has done for Thoreau, for much of what is written is not true. He was at Walden pond for two years and two months. Walden pond was two miles from the centre of Concord. He walked to Concord almost daily. His great friendship with Ralph Waldo Emerson is often the subject of envy. He was, in fact, Emerson's handyman and once remarked that Emerson was too much the gentleman to push a wheelbarrow.

During the two years at Walden, in a rude shack, he often dined at the comfortable home of Emerson and spent lots of time with Mrs. Emerson when Waldo was away, causing speculation amongst today's slander-thirsty writers.

I have often wondered, as I walk in the desert, no shower for a week, water frozen in the morning, wishing there was someone to talk to besides myself and all the Gods and Goddesses of time which surround me, or the animals, wondered if I would be better to follow Thoreau's footsteps and have a prod and foil in the background to be visited at will. A home cooked meal would best the canned peas, the bean sandwich, the water from the cattle trough, the occasional piece of cactus (just to taste). An upright chair would cradle the back when I sit - how nice a back on a chair is!

I am not quite alone in the South West. I do hike for a day with a Unitarian artist friend who sketches and then carves in clay fanciful bas relief tablets of mythical characters. We walk, talk, and sketch for a day. On my return I do spend a day with the ministers from San Diego and we talk about life, families, art, writing, reading and faith.

I wonder where this road is taking me. No doubt, I am more unsettled and happier, more direct about games people play, perhaps less patient, but more understanding, I hope. A spiritual journey is to be lived by the pilgrim, not to be torn apart by future generations guessing at what the journals might have meant. My journals and paintings in the desert are generally for me, family and closest friends, as your private edges of growth are largely for you and those closest to you.

I go to the desert because I had to make an intervention in a life becoming too wedded to the church, too close to family, not concerned enough with whatever the transcendent is in this world. The sojourns are working for me, though some day I may find that I need something else. For now, however, several times a year I go someplace to hike in a spirit filled

Gala Sierra Leone Dinner

The venue for the Gala Sierra Leone Dinner on Friday April 5 at 6.30 pm has been reserved at Lakeside Gardens in Britannia Park and not at Dows Lake as reported in our last issue.

The UNO committee assisted by Youth Committee members has been representing the church in the interorganization planning meetings. Steven Turnbull and Curtis Murphy will be coordinating our young people attending at the tables and the buffet.

Speakers and special guests for the occasion include The Hon. Flora MacDonald, Barbara Clark and MP David Pratt. The latter recently completed a comprehensive report on diamond smuggling and the illicit trade in arms during a visit to Sierra Leone.

Proceeds of the event will go to support a project involving three Sierra Leonean organizations involved in peacebuilding. The national YMCA is working with children displaced and scarred by the war as they seek to reclaim a normal life for themselves. The Sierra Leone Council of Churches is funding grassroots micro-projects to provide longterm alternatives to hunger and poverty. The Network Movement for Justice is organizing workshops to promote reconciliation and cooperation.

The Ottawa organising committee is headed by the Canadian Friends of Sierra Leone's chairman, David Hall. Also represented on the committee, in addition to our congregation, are the Canadian Friends Service Committee, the Ottawa Friends Monthly Meeting, Northwestern United Church, Peacefund Canada, Y-Focus-Ottawa and the Sierra Leone Descendants Union.

The dinner menu will consist of several delicious Canadian and Sierra Leonean dishes. There will be a live floor show of Sierra Leonean dancing and music to be followed by dancing with DJ Robert Kruikeemeyer.

New items and antiques, big and small, are still being sought for a live auction.

To help, or to buy or sell tickets, please call Ahti Tolvanen at 819-684-7770 or Jane Lindsay at 613-244-2124.

world. As much as I love and need my family and the people I am closest to, as much as I care about and respect so many of you at church, I agree with Thoreau, "I have not found any companion more companionable than solitude." But, now, enough is enough, I am here and I love being with you.

Love to each of you,



The River Rolling

I was brought up to believe that to be a good girl, I always had to be DOING something. The best things to do were reading and studying, but listening to music, knitting, playing softball, and swimming were all right, too. Lying around on my bed in the middle of the day with my head at the foot of the bed and my feet idly kicking the pillow definitely was not.

"What's the matter with you? Are you sick? What's wrong with you? Why don't you call your friend Lucy? Get up and DO something." This sort of pressure made me what I am today. I get a lot done. I finish most tasks on time. And I'm always thinking, "What should I be doing now?"

Some activities approach the idea of doing nothing. These are things to do, but they are just fun. There's no end product, no result, no grand accomplishment. A good example is messing around on a boat- not canoeing to the other side of the lake, or rowing yourself home, or sailing in a race, but just getting out there on the water in a boat, going whichever direction the wind and the waves seem to indicate, just being and moving out there because that feels right.

Kite-flying is another good example. It takes some doing- some skill and some preparation, just like boating. It gives you a feeling of accomplishment. "I got the darned thing to fly!" But when it's time to stop, you know that you have just been flying a kite, that's all.

The experts at doing nothing have attitudes and skills which I have not yet reached. They answer that external or internal parental nagging about "What are you DOING?" with "Oh, nothing," or "Just thinking," or "I can't decide." They take a lot of naps. They spend a bit of time not being able to move because a cat is sitting on them.

A lot of the best nothing is done outside. A lot of the best nothing takes place when you are simply a sensing being, not an architect or an activist or a rescuer, when you are there just to see and hear and smell and taste and touch, and remember. Some of my favourite memories are of places and the feelings of just being there.

Doing nothing by yourself is fine and valuable. Doing nothing with a friend, without helping each other, without the heart-to-heart talk this time, can deepen and enrich your friendship. So picture yourself in a favourite place, inside or out, alone or with a friend. Whether you imagine it or remember it, just be there for a while.

love,

Liz

April Sermons

April 7

Love Casts Out . . . (What?)

Rev. Brian Kopke

Of course the answer is 'fear' as told to us by Jesus. But what does it mean? Why did he relate love and fear? Everything from our personalities, our secrets, and our politics can be determined by the war between fear and love.

April 14

When to Punish

Rev. Brian Kopke

As prisoners were moved to Guantanamo Bay from Afghanistan, a predictable up-welling of discontent appeared. Mostly they were incarnations of arguments about how to treat people who have done something wrong - punish or rehabilitate. Canadian and U.S. Federal law governing prisons is filled with 'rehabilitation' talk, but the stories on the ground are a real mixed bag, with punishers doing their work quietly but persistently. This is a religious war. Lets take a look . . .

April 21

Changes and Chances

Rev. Elizabeth Benjamin


As we face this big change in our relationship as I retire, let's reflect on the many changes and chances of life. The river of life keeps on rolling, and we flow along with it, floating or flailing. We can help each other face and accept and challenge, with grace and hope.

April 28

Beyond the Ego

Rev. Brian Kopke

We live in the age of the ego. No doubt the fascination with Buddhism's pathways which lessen the influence of the ego is a sign. One of the greatest blocks to embracing the stranger, anyone different, is the need of the ego to be defensive, protective. Lets look at some stories of how we can become more open toward others without frightening the ego into a rabid state. We will also recognize volunteers for their work this past year. A good Sunday to bring a friend!




George St at
Byward Market St
789-6261

**Our Coffee Is
Out of this World**

Warsaw Polish Deli


747-G Richmond Rd. Z. & P. Bober
OTTAWA, ONT. Tel. (613) 722-5440
K2A 0G6



ALTA VISTA TRAVEL Ltd.

Trudy Kassner
Consultant

1577 Alta Vista Drive
Ottawa, ON K1G 0E9
(613) 737-4522 TEL
(613) 737-9889 FAX
(613) 730-2823 RES



April 2002						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Easter Monday Office Closed	2 Rise Up 7:30	3 Crafty Crafters 10:00 60+ 1:30 Com. on Ministry 7:30	4 UUWF 10:00 UU Intro 7:30 Choir Practice 7:30	5 Chamber Music 7:30	6
7 Prayer Circle 9:30 Gospel Choir 9:30 RE&Worship 10:30 Congreg. Meet. 12:00	8 Yoga 6:30 Women's Pers. Growth 7:30	9 Men's PM Group 1:30 Pace2000 3:00 RiseUp 7:30 UU Folk 7:30	10 Crafty Crafters 10:00 Board Meeting 7:30	11 UU Intro 7:30 Choir Practice 7:30	12 NEWSPAPER DEADLINE 12:00	13 UU Parenting 10:30
14 Gospel Choir 9:30 RE&Worship 10:30 Children'sChoir 11:50 UU/UNO 12:00	15 Yoga 6:30	16 Pace2000 3:00 RiseUp 7:30	17 Crafty Crafters 10:00 60+ 1:30 Membership Com. 7:30	18 UUWF 10:00 UU Intro 7:30 Choir Practice 7:30	19	20 Chamber Music 7:30
21 Gospel Choir 9:30 RE&Worship 10:30	22 Yoga 6:30 Wom. Pers. Growth 7:30 Holtom Lecture 8:00	23 Pace2000 3:00 RiseUp 7:30 UU Folk 7:30	24 Crafty Crafters 10:00 Seniors' Lunch 11:00 RE Committee 7:30	25 UU Intro 7:30 Choir Practice 7:30	26	27 Bridge Club 7:30
28 Gospel Choir 9:30 RE Registration 10:00 RE&Worship 10:30 Children'sChoir 11:50 P&D 12:00 PartnerChurch 12:00	29 Yoga 6:30	30 Pace2000 3:00 RiseUp 7:30				