

REV. HELEN McFADYEN, GUEST MINISTER



Reverend Helen McFadyen of Halifax, NS was our quarter – time Guest Minister in October. Helen led our Sunday service on October 18th and did a workshop at the Sunday service on October 25th. The service on the 18th was titled *Karma Chameleon: Wrestling with Grace*. Helen encouraged us to take back some of the spiritual words we have given away, like grace, and give them a substance that has meaning for us as Unitarian Universalists. It was an inspiring service and well attended. The workshop on Sunday October 25th was titled *Soup and Soul Talk - a Workshop on Spiritual Practices*. Soup was provided by Helen, a retired cook. She also participated in other events such as Book Club and the Bid Night Auction, shown below.

On Sunday, November 1st, the Fellowship will vote on calling Rev. Helen McFayden as a quarter – time Developmental Minister. Make sure you vote!



KUUF LINKS
Nov. / Dec. 2015



Seeking Spirituality
Practising Community



With Freedom of
Religious Thought

Kuuf Links

BOOK CLUB

***November 19 – Anne - Chasing Shackleton: Re-creating the world's greatest journey of survival, by Tim Jarvis. (2 copies)**

In early 1914, British explorer Sir Ernest Shackleton embarked for the South Pole, hoping to make the first land crossing of Antarctica. For three years there was no word from the expedition, and most assumed the men had perished. Remarkably, however, the crew was alive, thanks to Shackleton's leadership. After their ship was crushed by ice and the men trapped on a small island, Shackleton decided to attempt a risky eight-hundred-mile voyage across the Southern Ocean. After seventeen days in a leaking 22.5-foot wooden boat, they reached the remote island of South Georgia, where they had to climb over precipitous mountains to reach the whaling station on the other side. Ultimately, Shackleton was able to rescue all twenty-two crew members--a heroic triumph of endurance and leadership. In January 2013, using authentic period clothing, equipment, and rations, and sailing a precise replica of Shackleton's boat, Antarctica veteran Tim Jarvis leads a six-man crew in an attempt to re-create Shackleton's historic crossings, while documenting the impact of a century of climate change on the region.

***December TBA – Anne - The Sinatra Club: My life inside the New York Mafia by Sal Polisi (7 copies)**

The Mob was the biggest, richest business in America – too dangerous and too deadly to fail. Until it was destroyed from within by drugs, greed, and the decline of its traditional Crime Family values. And by guys like Sal Polisi. Born in Brooklyn, Polisi was raised on a family legacy as a member of the Colombos, one of the New York Mob's feared Five Families, and came of age when the Mafia was at the height of its vast wealth and power. He ran an after-hours gambling den, The Sinatra Club, a hangout for up-and-coming mobsters like the three wiseguys immortalized in Martin Scorsese's Goodfellas.. For Polisi, the thrills of robbing banks, hijacking trucks, pulling daring heists – and getting away with it all, thanks to corrupt cops - were fleeting. When he was busted for drug trafficking, and already sickened by the bloodbath that engulfed the Mob as it teetered toward extinction, he flipped and became one of the breed that he loathed all his life – a rat. Here, Polisi paints a never- before- seen picture of the inner workings of a once extensive and secret underworld that, thanks to guys like him, no longer exists.

Men's Lunch:

Nov.19 @ Nara Korean & Japanese restaurant,
474 Tranquille Road.

Contact Wes for information.

Women's Lunch:

The next UU Women's Lunch will be at 11:45 am, Thursday, November 12 @ Passek's Classical Café & Catering, 120 – 3rd Avenue.

The December UU Women's lunch will be at 11:45, Match Eatery & Public House (Casino Bldg. -- near Costco)

Ladies, please contact Gerda M. to confirm attendance.

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Upcoming Services

November 2015

November 1 – *The Three Passions of Leonard Cohen* led by Rev. Debra Thorne. A lover, a poet and a prophet in his own time, Leonard Cohen emerged on the Montreal folk music scene sixty years ago, and today at 78 years old he tours the world to audiences that span five generations. This deeply spiritual, brilliantly creative Canadian artist has something very important to tell us about life and living.

**** Don't forget time change early Sunday! ****
(Turn clocks **BACK** to PST.)

November 8 – **Contemplative Service** -- Join us for a quiet hour of meditation, music, and readings.

November 15 – *The Flaming Chalice* led by Rev. Brian Kiley. Each Sunday we begin our services by lighting a flaming chalice, a symbol with no fixed meanings and yet many meanings. Today we will consider the history of this powerful Unitarian image.

**** See page 6 for Rev. Brian Kiley Pot Luck ****

November 22 - *Welcoming Immigrants to Kamloops*. Kamloops Immigrant Services will speak about the work they do for settling immigrants and refugees into Canadian life.

November 29 - *Mindfulness for Social Change* led by Angela Lawrence. In this presentation Angela Lawrence will present the idea that mindfulness as a regular practice can open channels in the brain responsible for increased empathy and well being, creating the platform needed to be present for our own and others experience.

Angela Lawrence, M. Ed., is the Mental Health and Addictions Counsellor for School District #73. She is part of the Mindfulness Project which is committed to bringing mindfulness practices into classrooms.

SET-UP team for November = Eagles

SET-UP team for December = Buzzards

December 2015

December 6 – Divinity student, Rosemary Morrison, will present this service. More information will be coming later!



December 13 – *Contemplative service*. Join us for a quiet hour of meditation, music, and readings.

December 20 – *Winter Solstice Celebration*.

December 24 – *Christmas Eve Service*. Celebrate Christmas Eve with candles, carols, and contemplation.

Note the December 24th service is at 5:00 pm.



Refugee Resettlement Support

Thanks to all UUs who so generously donated over \$2000 of financial support, as well as pledging resettlement support for future refugee families in Kamloops -- in all, 13 people in our fellowship offered support. Forms and donations were delivered to Kamloops United Church, with a covering letter that members of our fellowship were eager to help new refugees. Seven of the donation forms given out at church on Sunday, Oct 4, were taken home, so we urge those people to complete the forms and take them to the KUC office. If you wish to be involved further with RAFT (Refugees And Friends Together), there will be a meeting soon. Please phone Martha at 778-471-7631 to find out when the next meeting will occur.

Eleanor and Gerri will be attending future meetings and would welcome more of you to accompany them!

As of October 29, RAFT has confirmed that 2 Syrian refugee families have been cleared to come to Kamloops, as early as the end of December. One family has 2 adults and 3 children, the other family has 2 adults and 1 child. In 2016, there are plans to apply for another family from a different country.

Here is the background to the initial refugee resettlement support meeting, held September 29:

On Tuesday night, Gerri and Anne attended the Refugees and Friends Together (RAFT) meeting at Kamloops United Church. There may have been others from our fellowship there as well. The place was packed – we figure there had to be at least 150 people there, which was amazing! The meeting was chaired by Martha Ashbaugh (who has for many years done all of the paperwork for refugees in coming to Kamloops), Linda Fraser (who for many years worked with refugee families in Kamloops), and Heidi (Coleman?) (Pres. of the local Jewish community and a newcomer to refugee resettlement). They gave background on refugee resettlement. RAFT is an ecumenical group, operating under Kamloops United Church which is a Sponsorship Agreement Holder (SAH). The KUC receives and distributes the funds to support the families, and also issues charitable receipts for donations.

Over the years our fellowship has supported in many ways 4 refugee groups --a group of five families from Kosovo, a family from Ethiopia, several families from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and a family from Colombia. These were valuable experiences – our fellowship supported a Kosovo family financially for a year, which is the agreement one takes when sponsoring refugees. We also collected furniture, moved furniture into apartments, visited and talked with the refugees, gave them jobs (Roland still hires a Kosovo family to do outdoor work at our office), and celebrated them with them on many occasions – carved pumpkins, decorated Christmas trees, tobogganed and swam, helped with English lessons, etc. This was particularly valuable for our children, and we encourage anyone with children in their lives to get involved with these new refugees.

The government has announced that it will fund 50% of the one-year financial commitment for a family. In order to bring in a family or families, RAFT needs to show that the money is in place, either in the bank or as pledges. RAFT funds the refugees for the first month, the government for months 2-7, and RAFT funds for the last five months. The cost for a family of four is \$30,000 for one year, and with the government's support for this year only, it will be \$15,000. The feeling that was expressed at the meeting was RAFT will be bringing in several families, perhaps five.

The first step is to gather financial support (all donations receive charitable receipts) and get commitments from people to help with preparations, gifts in-kind, fundraising, helping with the refugees after they have arrived, etc.

If you wish to attend further meetings of RAFT, phone Martha at 778-471-7631.

This is your opportunity to make a difference in the lives of refugees. We hope you will be inspired to act!

Bid Night October 17th, 2015



Setting the rules for the auction!



Jim has been our enthusiastic and entertaining auctioneer for nearly all of our 20 annual bid nights!

Bid Night started off with its usual pot luck dinner which is always fabulous! The bidding was started after 7:00 pm with Roland laying out the rules and Jim settling on the highest bids. The 2015 budget set Bid Night as raising \$2600.00. Roland is pleased to announce that we have exceeded that budgeted revenue and there are still some items that are unsold or still have spaces available:

- | | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| #1 – Low Tea | #2 – Women’s Lunch | #3 – Muffins (3 dozen left) |
| #4 – Fireworks (4 spaces) | #6 – TRU horticultural tour | #7 – Paul Lake picnic |
| #8 – 2 hours of expertise | #10 – Beatlemania (4 spaces) | #15 – Men’s Lunch |
| #17 – Valleyview hike | #19 – Vacuuming | #21 Frittata breakfast (3 spaces) |

Please contact the donor if you are interested in any of these Bid Night items!

Wilderness Camp

Hello, all.

This property was founded with amazing foresight. Has anyone been to camp there? As noted the founders were Rev. Phillip Hewett who has hiked and climbed mountains all his life and Rev. Robert Fulghum (Everything I Know I learned in Kindergarten).

A few Kelowna people may go and shared rides might be arranged.

Barbara

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WILDERNESS IS TURNING 50 YEARS OLD !!!!

(The land was purchased in 1965, and the first camp took place in the summer of 1966).

TIME TO CELEBRATE !!!

Saturday November 21st, 2015 at 7:00pm at the Unitarian Church of Vancouver, BC.

Come and hear our founders, Robert Fulghum and Phillip Hewett, talk about the origins and early days of Wilderness. Food and drink and photos and displays and a cake and lots of good people will be there.

Don't miss it. Let us know if you will join us so we can plan accordingly:

dewmillar@gmail.com

Your Board of Directors

Northwest Wilderness Society of the Unitarian Church

Pot Luck Dinner with Rev. Brian Kiley

Rev. Brian Kiley from Edmonton will be our guest minister on November 15th. We are very fortunate that he was able and willing to come. On Saturday, November 14th, there will be a pot luck dinner/discussion with him at our house. I am writing in advance so you can mark your calendars. This is primarily a social event - an opportunity to extend our hospitality which we learned yesterday can be a spiritual practice. Bring your offering of food around 5:30 and we will eat around 6. If you just want to come for the conversation, that will start around 7, or whenever we have finished our other merriment.

There is no formal topic of discussion, but an opportunity to have a conversation with him on a variety of subjects that relate to Unitarians.

Please also remember that Nov. 1st we turn our clocks back to PST.

Warmly,
Joan

Spotlight on Charities

Would you like to talk about one of your favourite charities in KUUF Links? Contact Verne, our editor.

**Anne's favourite charity: Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF)
(these notes are from the website, www.doctorswithoutborders.org)**

MSF helps people worldwide where the need is greatest, delivering emergency medical aid to people affected by conflict, epidemics, disasters or exclusion from health care.

This organization was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1999. The judges chose MSF “in recognition of the organization’s pioneering humanitarian work on several continents” and to honor its medical staff, who have worked in more than 80 countries and treated tens of millions of people.

The proceeds from the prize were used to set up a Neglected Disease Fund, designed to support pilot projects for the clinical development, production, procurement and distribution of treatments for neglected diseases, such as Chagas, sleeping sickness and malaria.

Every year, Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) provides emergency medical care to millions of people caught in crises in more than 60 countries around the world. MSF provides assistance when catastrophic events—such as armed conflict, epidemics, malnutrition, or natural disasters—overwhelm local health systems. MSF also assists people who face discrimination or neglect from their local health systems or when populations are otherwise excluded from health care.

There are more than 30,000 staff in the field on any given day. In 2014, MSF teams conducted more than eight million outpatient consultations. Staff delivered 194,400 babies. MSF surgeons carried out more than 81,000 surgical procedures.

At the beginning of 2015, teams were active in conflict zones including Syria, South Sudan, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Pakistan, Yemen, Iraq, and Afghanistan.

Donors receive MSF's quarterly newsletter, “Dispatches”. I really enjoy reading this from cover to cover. Some of Summer 2015 issue's topics were:

- *Survival Management: Refugees living with diabetes face extraordinary challenges.**
- *Moving Stories: People in transit tell MSF about their dangerous journeys in search of better lives.**
- *Opinions never saved a drowning child: Q & A with a Canadian doctor aboard MSF's Mediterranean migrant rescue boat.**
- *Community action: A new program helps a Canadian nurse's efforts to reduce malaria deaths in South Kivu.**
- *"She was right and we were wrong": A Canadian MSF nurse describes a life-changing diagnosis for a patient in Pakistan.**
- *How MSF works: building capacity to respond to natural disasters.**

Standing on the Side of Love and Justice! Join CUSJ!

Several of our fellowship members are also members of CUSJ, Canadian Unitarian for Social Justice. You may have seen this organization's JUSTnews newsletter on the information table at church. Our SEA committee members have already or are looking at joining CUSJ as individuals, and perhaps linking up with Kelowna members to form a regional CUSJ group.

Here's a bit about CUSJ:

Canadian Unitarians for Social Justice (CUSJ) is a national, liberal religious organization founded to actively promote Unitarian values through social action.

CUSJ develops and maintains a vibrant network for social action, at the local, national, and international levels, for the relief of:

Discrimination based on religious, racial, sexual orientation or other grounds

Violations of the human rights of individuals or groups

Poverty and economic injustice

Environmental degradation

Breaches of peace, security and the democratic process

CUSJ creates opportunities for expression of Unitarian values through:

* its website,

* JUSTnews newsletter and Discussion Papers

* its discussion list

* its Facebook page

* President's Report

* Letters and Briefs to media, politicians, and corporations

CUSJ is a membership organization of Unitarians committed to the above purposes, and a stakeholder group and associated member of the Canadian Unitarian Council (CUC).

Recent issues listed on the Home Page:

*Canadian Drug Policy Coalition news briefs

*Bill C-10 remains controversial

*Proportional Representation for Canadians

*new climate pricing system

Would you like to join CUSJ?

Barbara and Anne are already members and we would be very pleased to have more people join! Membership fees are by donation. Please visit the website: <http://cusj.org/about/join-the-cusj/> .

SEA News List:

The SEA committee sends news items to people on its News List. Since September we have alerted people to:

*Local first nations announce own environmental assessment of the proposed Ajax mine

*Ajax Application submitted to Environmental Assessment Office

*Town Hall meeting about the Ajax Application

*Rotary Food Drive

*Syrian refugee meeting

*Federal election – televised leaders' debate

*Federal election – all-candidates forum on seniors' issues

*Federal election – all-candidates final forum

*Federal election – party platforms

Would you like to be on our list? Please let Anne know if you would like to be included in future SEA news emails.

Stay in touch! Get active!

From the Editor's Desk

We've had quite a busy month in October as some of the pages in this issue highlight. I hope you had a chance to attend the service and/or the workshop that Rev. Helen McFayden presented and had an opportunity to ask her questions after the events or at other Fellowship meetings that she attended. So have you formed an opinion about calling her or not? At our Extra General Meeting on November 1st we will need to make a decision about calling her to be our developmental minister. If we do, we also have to decide what we expect her to accomplish in those two years and decide whether anyone can meet our expectations as a quarter – time minister in that time frame. As Janet has pointed out in her Ministerial Search Committee Report, a minister expects at least 85% support from the congregation before they will accept a call. I wish us all luck as we meet at this special meeting to decide. Remember that Janet wants an email from you stating your position if you are not able to attend. (Look at page four if you haven't read that part of the newsletter.)

See you on Sunday!

Verne

CONTACT US

The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Kamloops meets on Sundays at the Valleyview Community Hall (2288 Park St.) in Kamloops, B.C. during the months of September through June. (Services start on the Sunday after the Labour Day weekend.) Services are usually at 10:00 am @ Valleyview Hall. For details on individual Sunday schedules, please see the details on the newsletter Upcoming Services page, the monthly calendar, or go to **our website:** www.uukam.bc.ca

We are a welcoming community, believing in the dignity of every individual and in freedom of religious thought.

Contact us by phone: **250 – 374 – 5594**

Contact us by email:

uufellowshipkamloops@gmail.com