



# The Hamilton Unitarian

The First Unitarian Church of  
Hamilton  
Established 1889

November 2011  
Volume 62, No. 10

## Sunday Services 10:30 AM—all are welcome

### Nov 6<sup>th</sup>: A Spirituality of Brokenness

Rev. Victoria, Carl,  
and Jason Ingram

This summer, as Carl and I drove through the mountains of North Carolina, we found a funky, eclectic local radio station playing a song with these lyrics: “all my favorite people are broken, believe me, my heart should know.” Join us as we think about how the places in our lives where we are wounded or broken open us up to our spiritual journey and growth. Our son, Jason, will be performing some of his original music this morning, as well.

### Nov 13<sup>th</sup>: Seven Deadly Sins, Seven Heavenly Virtues

Rev. Victoria

Unitarians don’t always spend a lot of time thinking or talking about sin, but surely even in our progressive faith, there must be some things that are out the question behaviorally. Aren’t there? This week we consider what might be “sinful” for UUs, and the virtues we strive to practice to combat our less than heavenly impulses.

### Nov 20<sup>th</sup>: A Breaking Bread Bridge

Carly Gaylor

Volunteering, worshipping, and working (and eating!) at the Welcome Inn Community Centre has been an integral part of my spiritual journey; today I share insights and stories of resilience, beauty, and transformation in the face of poverty in Hamilton's North End.

### Nov 27<sup>th</sup>: The Grinch Had A Point

Mary Ellen Scanlon

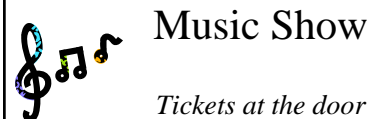
Holiday time is upon us again but is it really the most wonderful time of the year? Feeling overwhelmed already or somewhat less than cheery? You are not alone if you have mixed feelings about the month ahead. This service will reflect on the many moods of the season, recognizing both its joys and challenges

## NOVEMBER



### A magical music night on Saturday, November 5

## PERSPECTIVES



### Music Show

*Tickets at the door*

Adults \$10 Teens \$5 Children Free

\* Pot Luck Dessert 5:30

Silent Auction before the show

Show starts at 8:00 p.m.

SEE INSERT FOR MORE INFO

## Church Directory Pickup

Members or adherents who have not yet picked up their 2011-2012 church directory are asked to do so on Sundays at the Visitor kiosk. If alternate arrangements are required, we will be happy to make them if you contact Mary Scott at maryiscott@sympatico.ca or 905-627-9577.

## December Newsletter Deadline

Wed Nov 16

Please send submissions to  
[newsletter@firstunitarianhamilton.org](mailto:newsletter@firstunitarianhamilton.org)

The Church calendar is online at  
[www.firstunitarianhamilton.org](http://www.firstunitarianhamilton.org) and on

## Sunday November 6

### Time to fall back



Turn your  
clocks  
back one  
hour to  
standard  
time at  
2 a.m.  
Sunday.

## Contact Information

### MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

PRESIDENT ..... Tim Versteeg  
 VICE-PRESIDENT: ..... Monica Bennett  
 CO-TREASURERS: ..... Mel Webber & Mel Rutherford  
 MEMBERS: ..... Anne Bokma/Julianna Beckett  
 SECRETARY: ..... Stephanie Ounpuu  
 PAST PRESIDENT: ..... Kath McIntyre

### STAFF OFFICE HOURS TUE WED THUR 10 AM TO 4 PM

#### STAFF

**MINISTER:** Victoria Ingram.....905-527-8441 X223  
 Email..... victoria@firstunitarianhamilton.org  
**CONGREGATIONAL ADMINISTRATOR:** Melina. 905-527-8441  
 Email melina@firstunitarianhamilton.org..... X221  
**LIFESPAN LEARNING:** Tamara.....905-527-8441 X222  
 Email..... tamara@firstunitarianhamilton.org  
**MUSIC DIRECTOR:** Rachel.....905-527-8441 X402  
 Email..... rachel@firstunitarianhamilton.org

**LAY CHAPLAINS:** Barbara Jepson 905-304-0559  
 Mark Zenchuk 905-777-1743

To reach someone in the following spaces at the church please call 905-527-8441 and dial the appropriate extension: **foyer - 226, kitchen - 227, room 7 - 228, room 9 - 229**

### LEADERSHIP COMMITTEES:

Management ..... Kath McIntyre  
 Committee on Ministry ..... Jennifer Kaye  
 Nominating ..... Michele Corbeil, Joan Foster  
 Volunteer Coordinator: ..... Gail Rappolt

### THE CLUSTERS AND THEIR MANAGEMENT REPS:

#### ADMINISTRATION – BARBARA WALLACE

Communications. .... vacant  
 Property/Grounds Committee. .... Doreen Knol (Interim Chair)

#### FELLOWSHIP – DAPHNE PAYNE

Membership Committee ..... Paul Hawkins, Kathryn Cowley  
 Greeters Co-ordinators ..... John Mitchell, Pierrette Cayen  
 Newcomers' Co-ordinators ..... Mary Scott  
 Seniors' Program ..... Gordon Beckett/William LaFerla  
 Book Group ..... Dawn Ludbrook  
 Fellowship Hour. .... Joanne Waters  
 Library ..... Linda Layton, Lynn Ablard  
 UU Families..... Melanie Parish, Cathy Grise  
 Young Adult Social & Spiritual Circle ..... Kate Hicks

#### OUTREACH – MARGARET MCFADYEN

Denominational Affairs Representative ..... Nora Prosser  
 Lay Chaplaincy Committee ..... Bill Fulton  
 Social Justice ..... Bill Johnston & Margaret McFadyen  
 Fair Trade Task Force ..... Jen Dawson  
 Grandmothers to Grandmothers ..... Ann Craig Howarth  
 UU-UN Office Rep ..... Todd Fraleigh

### OFFICE VOLUNTEER HOURS TUE WED THUR 12:30-4:30PM

**OFFICE VOLUNTEERS** ..... 905-527-8441 X224  
 Email ..... volunteer@firstunitarianhamilton.org

### PASTORAL – VACANT

Benevolent Fund Manager..... Rev Victoria Ingram  
 Caring Community Comm..... Glen Doe  
 Joys and Sorrows Co-ordinator..... Pat Oertel  
 Shared Ministry Groups ..... Sandy Lubert & Joan Foster

### LIFE SPAN LEARNING – JULIE BERGSHEOFF

Adult Rel. Ed. Co-chair..... Nancy McMartin & Don McFadyen  
 Children & Youth Rel. Expl... Kelly Wolf & Mary Anne Forbes  
 Our Whole Lives (OWL)..... Elizabeth Beckett  
 Youth Group Leaders.....

### STEWARDSHIP – ROY DICKINSON

Stewardship Committee Chair ..... Paul Hawkins  
 Festival Committee ..... Dave Adeney  
 Finance Comm & Capital Funds..... Bruce MacPherson & Al Sharp

### WORSHIP – LEE INKSTER

Choir Director ..... Cindy Carey  
 Music Committee ..... Cindy Carey  
 Sound Team Co-ordinators..... Craig Hanson & Gary Hicks  
 Ushers Co-ordinator..... Elinor Berquist  
 Worship Assistants Co-ordinator..... Ann Craig Howarth  
 Worship Committee..... Mary Ellen Scanlon

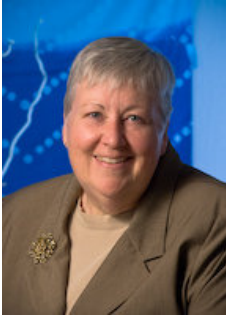
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**Personnel do change. Please inform the office of any errors, omissions or changes.**

Production: Melina, Office Manager. Assembled by Pat Keefe, Barb Kulcher, Dawn Ludbrook, Sheila McAllister, Ruth Pollard, Doris Wells, and Eleanor Wrigley.

## Minister's Column



November promises to be a full and engaging month here at the church, and I find I'm having a hard time focusing on a single message for this month. So, in that spirit, here are a few things to ponder this month:

**Considering Your Financial Commitment to First Church:** The Stewardship Committee has provided you with information to help you discern

your level of financial support for First Church in 2012. You've read about our commitments and dreams for the future, and how we've made major leaps forward in programming, staffing, and outreach toward achieving our congregational dreams. I've preached about the awe and gratitude at the center of our faith, and how these experiences lead us to consider our obligations for sharing our gifts – time, ability, resources, talents – with our church and with the larger world.

Carl and I heard about the concept of the "liberal tithe" a number of years ago, and we decided to examine our giving history and see where we were in terms of our charitable contributions. It was a sad picture, let me tell you. So, we decided to begin a practice of giving that would eventually lead us to give 10% of our net income to Unitarian Universalism, as well as to other causes we identified with.

It took a few years, but we have achieved our commitment. We now give away 10% as a tithe each year; 50% (or more) goes to our church and to Unitarian Universalist charities and the remainder we divide up between other worthy causes we care about. It's not always easy – we have as many bills to pay and other financial obligations as any family, and sometimes there are surprises that hit our budget pretty hard. We are at a point in our lives where we feel able to choose and keep this kind of commitment. I understand that every person, every family has different obligations and financial challenges. You will have to make the right decision for yourself as you consider your financial commitment to First Church.

The amount you commit to is your business, and no one expects you to give more than you can or want to give. Here's what I ask: make it a CONSIDERED decision. If you habitually just write out a check for a specific amount, take some time to really think about what that amount will be this year. If you've given your financial commitment good consideration and determined your gift for next year's

budget, than give it proudly! Every gift is appreciated; every person is welcome, embraced, and loved without consideration of the amount you can or can't financially contribute to the Church.

And, thank you for being a part of this church community and following through on your commitment to having professional ministry. I am so happy to be with you as your full-time minister, sharing with you the joys and challenges of being a congregation on a mission to serve each other, the community, and the Earth.

**Talking About Our Mission:** On Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup>, join me after church for a conversation about our First Unitarian mission statement. We'll meet in the Sanctuary from 12 Noon to 1 p.m. (childcare and snacks will be provided.) Your input and feedback have been vital in creating the draft statement; your insight and editing are important in crafting the final version of this important affirmation of our church's mission in the community and the world.

**Coping with Grief:** Bayside Counseling Centre has developed a series of supportive, helpful videos for those who are coping with grief following the loss of a loved one. The series is titled: *The End is Just the Beginning*. The videos are free, and are available in our library. You are welcome to take one home (you may keep it or return it to the library.) If you borrow or take a video, please fill out one of the light blue cards in the display and place it in the box near the brochure stand. Please remember that I'm always happy to talk with you if you are facing a challenge in your life, or you just need someone to talk to about something.

**November 20-26:** I'll be taking a week of my study leave this week to attend a UU Minister's retreat with my colleagues from Southern Ontario. If you call or email me this week, please be patient in waiting for your response, since I'll have limited phone and internet access at our retreat location.

**Food banks** are having a particularly challenging time keeping their shelves full this year. I encourage you to take advantage of dropping off a generous donation of non-perishable food items for our local food bank here at church when you come on Sunday. Near the front door is a wooden bin into which you can deposit your donation. They are gathered and delivered to the food bank on a regular basis.

With love and light,  
Victoria



### November Prayer

May we live our lives beyond separation, knowing that nations and cultures are made up of individuals. May I be as one who rethinks my life, my actions, and aligns to the glory we are all capable of. May I follow where I am spiritually guided, and embrace what is new that is of love. May love flow through me and lend my individual life and light toward a better world.

Eagle Speaks Woman (Jacqueline T. Snyder)



## message from the Board “It’s a Wonderful Church...”



There are likely few among us who haven’t seen Frank Capra’s classic film “It’s a Wonderful Life” at one time or another. Probably you’ve seen the film many times over the years, watching an angel guide Jimmy Stewart’s character through a tour of what his town would have been like had he never been born.

Consider for a moment what our neighbourhood and our city would be like without First Unitarian...for well over a hundred years this congregation has stood out as the pre-eminent progressive voice for liberal religious values in this city, serving the causes of justice and equality in words and works. And like all Unitarian Universalist churches it has done so without the support of a larger governing body, independent and self-reliant on the gifts of its own members and friends

Thanks to the time, talent, and treasures of our members, our church is thriving. We are on the cusp of great things which will serve not only our congregation, but the wider world beyond our doors. With professional ministry, program and music direction, and administration, we are poised to welcome ever more spiritual searchers of truth and meaning into our church. The draft of our new mission statement points us towards the future. Together we can change the world.

When you think about your financial commitment to the church for this upcoming year, consider carefully the UUA Fair Share Giving Chart and the worksheet attached. Consider what the existence of this place means for you, your family, your friends, and the community. Consider what this church could mean for all those people who will join us on the journey in the future. And consider too the words of Tommy Douglas, who told Canadians “Dream no little dreams.”

Dream big.

It’s a wonderful church.

~Tim Versteeg, Board President,

## Splinters from the Board, Sept 24<sup>th</sup> 2011 Board Meeting

- **Mission Statement:** The draft mission statement has been circulated for comment. A Community meeting will be held in November to discuss the Mission statement.
- **Canvass:** The Board endorsed a canvass target for 2012 as well as the process outlined by the Finance Committee:
- The Financial goal for this year’s Canvass (\$314K) is based on the 3-year budget forecast completed during 2011. The substantial increase over the 2010 campaign result (\$250K) is due to the fact that the 2010 result was below the 2010 target.
- During the 2010 Canvass, 210 of our 300 eligible members/adherents were represented. The 2011 Canvass will focus on encouraging all members/adherents to make a contribution.
- During the 2011 canvass, members/adherents will be asked to consider a pledge that is based on a percentage of personal income. Fair Guidelines from the UUA Fair Share Giving Guide will be used as a model.
- **Other Church Fundraising:** The Chair Dedication fundraiser will be restarted. A first step will be to ensure that all previous orders are completed.
- **Revised Heating System:** The Board approved a proposal from the Property Committee for the funding of a revised heating system. Payment for this system will come from the Property Budget, with an additional portion from the Reserve Fund. The estimated payback time for this new system is two years.
- **Church Policy Binder:** Julianna Beckett is leading a much needed review and re-organization of our Policy Binder. The documents in the binder currently reflect existing policy as well as a historical perspective. The intention is to develop a living document in electronic format that will house current church policies, be a resource to reflect historical context, and provide a space for looking forward.
- Each Church Committee can expect to receive a set of existing policies/guidelines thought to be relevant to that Committee’s work. Committees will be asked to consider which policies/guidelines continue to be relevant, which policies/guidelines are out-dated, and which ones require some revision. Final decisions on any changes will be agreed to with Management Committee.
- **Committee Chair Appointments:** The Board appointed Jennifer Reid as co-chair of CYRE.



## From the Library Committee

Your church library practices the 3R's!



Thank you to all who have recently returned their library books so that others may **REUSE** them.



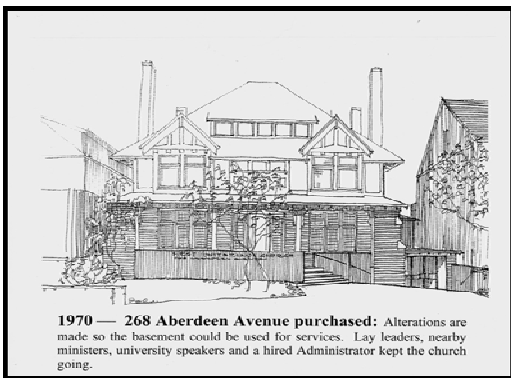
Your help is still needed to **REDUCE** the number of books still on hiding on shelves, under beds, on top of the fridge, by the front door waiting to be returned to your library. You are welcome to renew a book by re-signing the card.



Requests have come in for the book "**A Chosen Faith**". If you have a copy of this book, please consider **RECYCLING** it by donating it to your library.

## Memory Lane

Each month, space permitting, the Library Committee will be featuring a photograph from our Archives. We invite people to share any comments or memories of the photo and we will try to publish them in the next issue. Photo albums are available in the library for anyone interested in looking at more photographs.



This drawing shows the first location of the Unitarian Church on Aberdeen Avenue. Any comments or memories? Please email [writingcharlie@gmail.com](mailto:writingcharlie@gmail.com).

Hope you enjoy this first trip down Memory Lane.



from the Caring Committee  
[caring@firstunitarianhamilton.org](mailto:caring@firstunitarianhamilton.org)

## Passages

- Roy Dahl & Paul Hawkins had their 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary
- Bill Johnston's wife, Leslie Kaye, died a year ago
- Sandy Lambert had a Grand daughter, Madelyn Grace
- Catherine Silverglen celebrated her birthday, good health and supportive friends
- Val Ramsey was ill with pneumonia
- Ann Franklin finds it difficult to come to church, in part because of a fall
- Aukje Byker became the Grandmother of Otis
- Emily Jewer and Wade Zacharias celebrated 7 years of marriage
- Linda Thomson is completing a part-time ministerial internship with the Amherst NY Congregation this church year
- John Greene has returned from taking his Mother to Ireland to visit family and to intern his Father's ashes
- Tony Marcogliese participated in the Run For The Cure on a team named, for his Aunt Mary who died of breast cancer, The Hail Mary
- Carly Gaylor passed her Fellowship Interview and is now in fellowship as a UU Minister
- Roy Dahl's dear Aunt Heartha died
- Linda Tunnicliffe's daughter is expecting a baby



## From the Adult Religious Exploration Committee

The Adult Religious Exploration Committee is beginning to work on the new courses for winter/spring 2012. If you would like to facilitate a course or have a particular interest that you would like to see offered please contact Don McFadyen, Nancy McMartin, or Anne Wilson. We would love to hear from you

## Unsung Heroes - No Matter How Big or Small the Task

This month I would like to acknowledge two groups of volunteers. I think it is particularly appropriate to acknowledge them in the same article because they represent such very different aspects of life in a church congregation. The results of one group's work are highly visible, not only to our congregants but the work made a positive impact on behalf of our church (and will continue to do so) in the larger community. The other group's was not visible to more than a handful of congregants - virtually no one would have known about it. One group's work took a few hours on a Saturday with no required forethought or planning except on the part of the committee chair. The other group's work had been months in the planning and perhaps years in the minds of some like-minded Social Justice Committee members in our congregation. It required structure, fundraising, volunteer lists, sign up and follow through - literally hours, days and weeks of work on the part of many people. My point here is that it takes all kinds of tasks, some large, some small, but none trivial, to make our community function. In an ideal world the whole congregation would be involved in many and varied ways to support the needs of the church. It does take the whole congregation to make a church a vibrant community and live the mission we are working toward.

The first **Let's Do Lunch Program** designed and developed by members of our Social Justice Committee was overwhelmingly successful on Tuesday October 18<sup>th</sup>. The room was beautifully decorated, more than 85 people attended, donations more than covered the costs of the food that was purchased to prepare the meal and the positive energy in the room was tangible. It is difficult to single people out for recognition because typical of Social Justice folks everyone I spoke to and commended said "Oh it wasn't me - it was so and so too". Yes, there were many people who helped with food purchase and preparation the day before, served food, raced to the store to buy extra, cleaned up, worked the door and acted as greeters. As with any big project, how there has to be leadership. Anne Wilson and Nancy McMartin were the people who over a year ago went to another church and saw how it could be done, returned to ask if Social Justice wanted to take it on, shepherded it through Board and engaged others in their vision and made it happen in the most amazing way. In particular Anne managed the food planning, purchase, organization and preparation (gluten free and vegan), Nancy managed advertising and

communication, Charlie Pond engaged the volunteers, Margaret McFadyen was responsible for set up and decorations and Bill Johnson was treasurer. These five people with support from many others made a dream reality on Tuesday in the most positive of ways; serving those in need, engaging our congregation and living our church's new draft mission. Congratulations to all!

And who knew that folks came in and cleaned out kitchen cupboards, went through musty cupboards in the "land of OZ" behind the black curtains last Saturday from 10 - 2. That is also what this column is about - acknowledging those who do the quiet behind the scenes work even for a few hours on a Saturday. And so, if you had looked behind the black curtain two weeks ago - well, ask Lyle Franklin about what it looked like. And today a neat tidy area! Special thanks to Doreen Knol, Chair of Property who organized the day, Kelly Wolf

and Dalphine, Elizabeth Beckett, Don Bragg (who gave us a few numbers on the piano to cheer us), Diane Hinselwood and Betty Repa. And the kitchen, well every cupboard was wiped out - mismatched items were given away and cupboards and drawers were relabelled. Seldom used items were moved to the basement. Thanks to Joanne Waters and Mary Eve for 4 hours great work in the kitchen. The groups even had a start in the basement - but lots more to do there if you are looking for a way to help out. And of course we can't forget that fact that John Pegg and Ron Joice, our trusty property workers were fixing lights and working on the sound booth all Saturday morning (again) as well. And a Saturday before Walter Clement, John Mitchell, Nancy Willson, and Kathryn Cowley worked in the yard filling potholes so that the handicapped parking spots were no longer lakes.

Gail Rappolt,  
Leadership Development Volunteer Coordinator





## A Message from your Stewardship Committee

With Hope and Joy,  
Paul Hawkins, 2012 Stewardship Committee Chair  
905.541.5833 or pwhawkins@aol.com

We often hear it said that “change for the sake of change is meaningless”. However, when change is intended so that new ideas can be received and understood; that change now has purpose.

This year’s Stewardship Committee has been meeting weekly to plan this year’s approach for helping our members, adherents and friends make their financial commitments. Our committee members include Rev. Victoria Ingram, Minister; Bill Johnston, Social Justice Co-chair; Bruce MacPherson, Finance Committee Co-Chair; Margaret McFadyen, Social Justice Co-chair; Al Sharp, Finance Committee Co-Chair; Gail

Some concepts that our committee wants to focus on this year and as defined by Clark include:

- **Financial Commitment Form** – The written record of a financial commitment. Replaces the term *pledge form*.
- **Financial Commitment** – A monetary obligation made by a congregant to an annual budget appeal. Replaces the term *pledge*.
- **Call** – Willingness to proclaim the good works of the faith community, such as by talking about one’s passion for one of the congregation’s internal programs or global ministries.
- **Spiritual Vocation** – Willingness to take up service opportunities to support the faith community.

We have a full and compact schedule for this year’s 2012 Annual Budget Appeal:

- **October 16** – Commitment Sunday. Victoria will share her message entitled Grace and Gratitude. Following the service, “The Commitment to Realizing our

We each have our own personal reasons for being a part of this faith community and our financial commitments are also a personal decision. Our committee spent time discussing that the way in which we personally calculate our financial commitment directly impacts our collective ability to carry out our mission. We are therefore introducing the “Fair Share Giving Guide” as used by congregations across North America. It is intended as a guide for your own personal commitment and as a source of strength and satisfaction in

Rappolt, Volunteer Coordinator; Tim Versteeg, Board President; and me, Paul Hawkins as Committee Chair.

Wayne B. Clark, in his book, *Beyond Fundraising; A Complete Guide to Congregational Stewardship*, published by the UUA and used by congregations across North America, states that “We need a new vocabulary, one that emphasizes what we have instead of what we don’t, that promotes gracious receiving as well as joyful giving, and that broadens the concept of stewardship beyond fundraising.” Fundraising, as I define it, is about what we don’t have and stewardship is about what we do have.

Dreams” along with a “Fair Share Giving Guide” will be made available and the mailed to everyone not at the service.

- **October 16 - November 6** – Members of our committee will meet with key groups to engage folks in conversation. We also anticipate home visits in some cases.
- **October 30** – Following our service, we will share a refreshment buffet, with child care provided, so that we can have another opportunity to engage in conversation.
- **November 6** – Following our service, personalized Financial Commitment Forms will be made available for everyone present and then mailed to everyone else during the week.
- **November 27** – Our time period for receiving all returned and completed Financial Commitment Forms ends.

your life. We have also considered that the method in which we ask for a financial commitment also makes a significant difference. Therefore, there will be a variety of discussion opportunities this year, including some home visits. If you have any questions, comments, need more information, or would like to request a home visit at any time during this year’s 2012 Annual Budget Appeal, please be in touch with me directly or contact any member of our committee listed above.

### Draft Mission for our November 13<sup>th</sup> Discussion:

At First Unitarian Church of Hamilton, we care for one another, our community, and the earth. As a congregation of faithful people, we commit to:

- Engage in compassionate service that involves as many of us as possible in as many ways as possible;
- Encourage spiritual exploration and dialogue, modeling mutual respect;
- Model democratic behavior in all our decisions;
- Support and participate in projects to eliminate injustice and restore the environment; and
- Provide an informed, values-based voice for peace, equity and justice.

We welcome anyone who wishes to join us in this mission.

~ Rev. Victoria Ingram

from the Finance Committee

## Financial Requirements of Realizing our Dreams

To help us achieve our goal of being a lifespan learning church that is connected with and serving the broader community, we hired our settled minister in 2010, and this year added a full-time lifespan religious exploration professional, increased administrative support, and employed a part-time custodian. We also committed to the UU fair compensation guidelines for our staff.

These decisions were strongly supported by the congregation when we approved the 2010 and 2011 budgets. The forecasts for 2012 and 2013 that were included with the 2011 budget, showed the full cost of our staffing decisions first happening in 2012.

The Finance Committee estimates that the total financial commitments by the congregation in 2012 must increase by \$64,000 over the actual 2011 committed donations. Of this 25% increase, \$42,000 is needed to address the increase in staff costs and the rest to make up for

lower income from other sources and minor increases in other expenses. In 2013, we expect current operating expenses will increase in line with inflation.

To achieve our church mission, we need each other. Our church is self-financing, depending on the generosity of our members and friends. There is no external support from a larger denominational body. The Capital Funds Committee estimates that it will be at least another three years before our endowments recover enough from the recession to be able to make a modest contribution to our operating budget.

A 25% increase in our total financial commitments is a real challenge. To meet our obligations, we need more people to make a commitment than did so in the past, and some will have to offer a larger increase because not everyone will be able to increase their commitment by 25%. We ask that each of you carefully consider what commitment you will make to realizing our dreams. Together, we can do it.



### How Can I Serve?

First thanks to those who suggested names of congregants whom I might acknowledge as unsung heroes in upcoming newsletters. In a congregation where there are so many who serve, a column like *Unsung Heroes* can sometimes be a problem if people feel missed or their contributions don't feel honoured. So I am counting on you to let me know if there is someone whose work is being overlooked either in this column or in general.

This is the month in which we reflect on our financial commitment to the church. Thus in November, I challenge you to serve your congregation by reading the carefully prepared material about the 2012 financial commitments made by our community. Consider not only the money you will commit for this year but reflect on your commitment to the church and think about *how you might serve* by growing your financial commitment over the years. Whatever we do to serve – giving of our time – and sharing our skills and knowledge - there is the reality that as a church we are totally self-supporting financially.

On three Sundays in October the *service chart* was available in the Order of Service. There are extra copies at the Newcomer Desk or on the counter. The chart outlined the ways you might serve the church during this fall/winter. There are both short term tasks and longer term committee work requiring time commitments. I am reminded as I write that the single most important reason people give for not volunteering is "I was not asked". So I have asked all church members with designated leadership roles (which number about 60) to try and contact two people over the fall period to chat with them about how they might serve. Don't be surprised if you have people engaging you in conversation about what kind of service might connect you or fill your spirit - so do think about it in advance.

And finally, August to October has been an incredibly busy church start up and has had its moments. Understandably, given the pressures, some of us have acted or spoken from places of exhaustion or frustration – perhaps less than our best selves. Let's all take a deep breath as we head into November and remember Victoria's sermon about the 2<sup>nd</sup> principle – justice, equity and compassion in human relations ... and make amends where and if we need to.

Warmly,  
Gail Rappolt, Leadership Development Volunteer Coordinator

## A one-night Nepali Film Festival



*in support of education projects  
of the Trans-Himalayan Aid Society*

*Wednesday November 30*

*7-10 p.m.*

**First Unitarian Church of Hamilton, 170 Dundurn St. S., Hamilton  
Admission: \$5 or whatever you can manage.**

All donations are being matched by an anonymous donor, doubling the impact of your generosity.

**The films:** These amazing films combine beautiful scenery with realistic looks at some of problems of Nepal, a country of 29 million people lying between China and India that includes the Himalayas, the world highest mountains.

**The Trans-Himalayan Aid Society:** Created by Canadian writer-philosopher George Woodcock and his wife Inge in 1962 in response to the plight of Tibetan refugees driven from their homeland after the Chinese occupation of Tibet in 1959. It later expanded to support health, education, development and reforestation projects in northern India and Nepal. The society works entirely through overseas partners, relying on local expertise and materials to meet the needs on the ground.

**Organizers:** A project of long-time TRAS supporters Jessie Kaye and Karen Trollope-Kumar. Sponsored by the Social Justice Committee of the First Unitarian Church



### Committee on Ministries

“Ministries assessment” continues to be the primary focus of our attention as a committee at this time. Group members have been searching for assessment tools that might serve us well in our own congregation. The rest of us are now reviewing several of them and discerning what might work best. As a new school year is well underway, it seems appropriate that we have homework to do.

Gail Rappolt has graciously offered her “Leadership Development and Volunteer Coordinator” position as a way of getting our process started. We are grateful for her willingness to be with us at the beginning of our learning journey as we discover ways to make regular assessment as helpful and informative for the congregation as possible.

Jennifer Kaye (chair), Lesley Cordero, Roy Dahl  
Cathy Grise, Beverly Horton, Ginny Megin  
Rev. Victoria Ingram (ex-officio member)

### New Award For LGBTQ Students At Mohawk College



The Lyla Miklos Alumni of Distinction Entrance Award is a brand new award being offered to LGBTQ students at Mohawk College. The award is available to any student in their first year of study with a GPA of 70% or higher who self-identifies as gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, or queer and is a LGBTQ, human rights, or social justice activist. Deadline to apply is November 30, 2011. \$500 cash prize. To find out more about all the new Alumni of Distinction Awards being offered at Mohawk College this year visit <http://www.mohawkcollege.ca/development/our-donors/AOD.html>

Named Hamilton's Woman of the Year in Communications (2003) and Hamilton's Pride Citizen of the Year (2007), Lyla Miklos is a sex positive queer feminist activist, broadcaster, publicist, community organizer, writer, performer, and administrator. A graduate of Mohawk College's Radio Broadcasting (1997) and Broadcast Journalism (1998) programs, Lyla was named an Alumni of Distinction in 2003. ([www.lylamiklos.com](http://www.lylamiklos.com))



## The music will be great here on Saturday evening, November 5

Hope you can make this family-friendly festival of original music – instrumental and vocal. This kaleidoscopic stage show will feature our very own Hamilton Unitarian Musicians (“HUM” for you acronym lovers).

Plus...silent and live auctions. Join your church friends and bid on a tempting selection of services (most of them dreamed up and personally provided by some of the most innovative people in this part of the country...our congregants!).

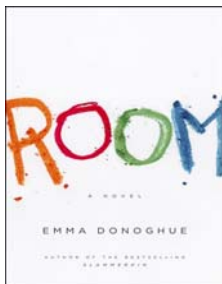
Plus...a pot-luck dessert before the show. Have a light dinner at home...bring a pot luck dessert and join the gang at the tables in the R.E. area. Or be deliciously deviant and have an all-dessert dinner here (you can always claim you’ve just invented a new UU diet).

Show tickets at the door: Adults - \$10, Teens - \$5, Children – Free.

See the church newsletter for more details – or ask at the Festival Committee desk.

P.S. Here’s your opportunity to showcase your imagination and generosity as you help raise funds for First Unitarian (i.e., all of us!) The Festival Committee would greatly appreciate your auction donation (service items only, please)...and so would the rest of the congregation. Just speak to the folks at the Festival Committee table in the foyer or respond to the committee’s all-congregation email. Many thanks!

~see insert for more info



**Food for Thought  
book group**  
Monday Nov 21st 7:30  
(Room 3 Church Library)  
*Room Emma Donoghue*

This story in this month’s book is told by a young boy ....starting at 5 years old ....growing up with his imprisoned mother in one room.

“One of the most affecting and subtly profound novels of the year..... you need to enter this small harrowing place prepared only to have your own world expanded”, The Washington Post.

Please join us for discussion if you have read the book.

~ Dawn Ludbrook, 905-627-4896

**First Unitarian Church Aesthetics  
Committee invited you to:**

*First Unitarian Small Works*

*Holiday Art Show*

Friday, November 4, 2011  
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

WHERE:

First Unitarian Church of Hamilton  
170 Dundurn St South  
Hamilton ON L8P4K3

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>30 12:00 PM - 9:00 PM Nov/Dec Art Show Drop off Rm3 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM Courage to Change-Sanc.</p>	<p>31 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM Senior Art Lessons - FH Event time 2:30 -4pm 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM Nov/Dec. Art Show Drop off Rm3 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM Rental HAHN-FH 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM ARE-Tai Chi-Foyer</p>	<p>1 All Saints Day 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Art Show Hanging Foyer 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Mandala Workshop Rm. 9 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM Canvass Committee rm 7 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM Children's Hero Program-FH, Rm 9, Rm 11, Kit 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM Spirit in Practice - Sanc. 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Social Justice Com-Rm7 7:15 PM - 9:00 PM CYRE-Foyer</p>	<p>2 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM Writers Circle-Lib 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM blooms for Africa Potluck and Mtg Foyer &amp; Kitchen 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM ARE Lotus Sutra-FH 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM Communications Comm Mtg Rm9</p>	<p>3 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM Shared Ministry Rm 3 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Choir Practice Sanctuary 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Rental: Mindfulness for Beginners rm9</p>	<p>4 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM Group Art Reception Foyer &amp; kitchen Event time 7-9pm 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM Fall Festival Rehearsal - SANCTUARY 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM Drumming Circle Fellowship hall</p>	<p>5 9:00 AM - 11:00 PM Fall Festival stage show and silent &amp; live auctions. Whole Church 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM FUUD-Rm 9</p>
<p>6 Daylight-Saving Time Ends 1:30 PM - 5:00 PM June Caskey Sanct 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM Courage to Change-Sanc.</p>	<p>7 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM Senior Art Lessons - FH Event time 2:30 -4pm 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM Red Hill Valley Group Lecture Sanctuary/Foyer 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM ARE-Tai Chi-FH</p>	<p>8 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM Canvass Committee rm 7 1:30 PM - 3:30 PM A Chosen Faith Rm 9 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM Children's Hero Program-FH, Rm 9, Rm 11, Kit 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Music Comm Mtg.-Music Office Rm 2 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM Astronomy. Sanc.</p>	<p>9 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Seniors Coffee &amp; Conversation-FH,Kit 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM 5 at First-Sanc Kit 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM ARE Lotus Sutra-FH 7:00 PM - 9:30 PM Management Committee - Rm9</p>	<p>10 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM Spiritual Practices Group Rm 7 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM Shared Ministry Grp. Rm 3 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Choir Practice Sanctuary 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Rental: Mindfulness for Beginners rm9</p>	<p>11 Veterans Day 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM United Nations-Rm7 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM Drumming Circle Fellowship hall</p>	<p>12 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM FUUD-Rm 9 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM Parents Night Out and Kids Movie night</p>
<p>13 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM Peace Vigil - Sanctuary 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM Young Adult Pot Luck-FH 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM Courage to Change-Sanc.</p>	<p>14 8:30 AM - 9:00 PM Outreach Set up Social Justice comm. kitchen 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM Senior Art Lessons - FH Event time 2:30 -4pm 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM Membership-Rm7 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM Youth Group - Sanctuary 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM ARE-Tai Chi-FH</p>	<p>15 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM Outreach Luncheons Kitchen, Fellowship Hall 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM Canvass Committee rm 7 1:30 PM - 3:30 PM A Chosen Faith Rm 9 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM Children's Hero Program-FH, Rm 9, Rm 11, Kit 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM Astronomy. Sanc.</p>	<p>16 Newsletter Deadline 5:00 PM - 7:30 PM SEHC rental -Sanc/foyer 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM ARE Lotus Sutra-FH 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Finance Com.-Rm7</p>	<p>17 1:30 PM - 4:00 PM Seniors' Games - FH 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM Shared Ministry Rm 3 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Choir Practice Sanctuary 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Rental: Mindfulness for Beginners rm9</p>	<p>18 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM Drumming Circle Fellowship hall</p>	<p>19 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM A BIG TEAM MTG - Sanctuary/Foyer/kitchen 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM FUUD-Rm 9 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM PKD Foundation-Rm9</p>
<p>20 12:30 PM - 5:30 PM June Caskey-Sanc/foyer 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM Courage to Change-Sanc.</p>	<p>21 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM ARE mtg Rm7 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM Senior Art Lessons - FH Event time 2:30 -4pm 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM 3 sisters dinner kit and FHall 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM Youth Group - Sanctuary 7:00 PM - 9:30 PM The Iroquoia Club - Room 9 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM ARE-Tai Chi-FH 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM Book Group Rm 3 Library</p>	<p>22 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM Canvass Committee rm 7 1:30 PM - 3:30 PM A Chosen Faith Rm 9 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM Caring Committee Rm 10 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM Children's Hero Program-FH, Rm 9, Rm 11, Kit 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM Astronomy. Sanc.</p>	<p>23 1:30 PM - 4:00 PM Seniors Advisory Mtg Rm 9 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM ARE Lotus Sutra-FH 7:00 PM - 9:30 PM Board Meeting Rm 9</p>	<p>24 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM Newsletter Assembly Rm 9 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM Spiritual Practices Group Rm 7 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM Shared Ministry Grp. Rm 3 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Choir Practice Sanctuary 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Rental: Mindfulness for Beginners rm9</p>	<p>25 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Music Night - Sanctuary 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM Drumming Circle Fellowship hall</p>	<p>26 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM FUUD-Rm 9 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM Offsite Flam Santa Parade</p>
<p>27 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM June Caskey Sanct 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM Courage to Change-Sanc.</p>	<p>28 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM Senior Art Lessons - FH Event time 2:30 -4pm 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM Rental</p>	<p>29 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM Canvass Committee rm 7 1:30 PM - 3:30 PM A Chosen Faith Rm 9</p>	<p>30 6:30 PM - 10:00 PM Soc Justice Fundraiser Sanct, Foyer &amp; Kit 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM ARE</p>	<p>1 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM Shared Ministry Rm 3 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Choir Practice Sanctuary</p>	<p>2 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM Drumming Circle Fellowship hall</p>	<p>3 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM FUUD-Rm 9 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM Rental HAHN-FH,</p>

# News From the— Lifespan Learning

tamara@firstunitarianhamilton.org or 905 527-8441 ext 222



I am so grateful to the members of adult religious exploration who are also involved in social justice for their contribution to the soup & sandwich luncheon kick-off, which was a huge success on 18<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for setting an example for the rest of us to follow,

especially the next generations coming along...many of whom will be involved in the December 18<sup>th</sup> CYRE Winter Service. "The Good King," which will be based on the carol "Good King Wenceslas" with a Unitarian perspective. The CYRE committee has formed a subcommittee to make this happen, with the invaluable assistance of Anna Schafer. More details to come!

One of the highlights of October was the beginning of a whole new class for our "pre-youth," middle

-school children, who wanted a program to call their own. Now they are meeting every Sunday to discuss what is important in their lives, including standing up for their rights as well as the rights of others, building on values they have already cultivated with themselves, and of course, fellowship with one another. My thanks to Elizabeth Beckett, who jumped in to this new project with enthusiasm and a lot of creative ideas.

These young people, at such an important juncture in their lives (this is the same age when other people have their Bat Mitzvah and Bar Mitzvah!) will be the heirs to the youth group, which recently started up again on Monday evenings. Some familiar faces are being seen again, and it's a joy to welcome new members as well. So far there's been a lot of good pizza, a lot of good jokes, and a lot of good conversation.

In Fellowship, Tamara



## Sunday Guest Speakers

**Nov 20th Speaker: Carly Gaylor**



Carly Gaylor is Executive Director at Welcome Inn Community Centre, the community where she lives her ministry. An (almost) lifelong UU, she grew up in the First Unitarian Congregation of Toronto and became a member here at

First Unitarian Church of Hamilton as a young adult. She studied social work and divinity at Wilfrid Laurier University and looks forward to her upcoming ordination in Spring 2012

**Nov 27th Speaker: Mary Ellen Scanlon**

Mary Ellen Scanlon has been a member of our community for a decade. She is presently Chair of the Worship Committee. This is her third service at FU on the challenges of the holiday season. She looks forward to putting her disco lights on the Christmas tree again this year

## Church Emails

### Booking Rooms

bookings@firstunitarianhamilton.org

### Order of Service Submissions

oos@firstunitarianhamilton.org

Deadline: Wed 9:00 am

### Committee Minutes:

minutes@firstunitarianhamilton.org

### Newsletter Submissions

newsletter@firstunitarianhamilton.org

### Address/Email/Phone Updates

directory@firstunitarianhamilton.org



Out of the box and straight to the heart...  
**A magical music night on  
Saturday, November 5**

Even for First UU Hamilton, the **PERSPECTIVES** Music Show promises to be a stereotype-busting evening of great entertainment. All the music, all the lyrics have been created by our congregants (or “closest thing to”).

Check out this intriguing musical menu:

**Rev. Victoria’s son** in a **special guest appearance** (more details coming soon).

**Rachel Derry**, our Music Director. Don’t miss her jaw-dropping vocal and pianistic talents focused on her own original music. Fasten your seat belt for this performance!

**With our choir...Jude Johnson**, singing “**One Voice**,” which Jude wrote for the Bach Elgar choir. The theme: we’re all creative spirits with one voice bound in beauty. Plus “**Love is Everything**,” which she wrote for a CD to raise money for the homeless in Hamilton.

**Cindy Carey (guitar and vocal) & Sandy Lubert (vocal)** – performing “**Fragile Flames**,” expressing a mother’s sensitivity to both the vulnerability and the powerful potential of her children.

**J.P. Morrison**. A grab-your-heart voice and sonorous guitar in the Bob Dylan tradition. J.P. will sing his haunting “**Pilgrim**” song.

**Ed Canning**. When is a lawyer a **lyricist, melodist and singer**? On Nov. 5!

**Dave Adeney** in one of his rare out-of-the-closet performances. **Walking bass, boogie woogie and other assorted blues piano stylings.**

**Mary Ann Forbes** likes to write folk-flavoured songs about being a human and have a little fun while she’s at it. “**Changes**” and “**I Give Thanks**” (**guitar and vocals**, with harmonizing help from Cindy and Sandy.)

**Plus other head-and-heart-pleasing performances.**

**Do come...you’ll leave with  
a happy tummy\* and heart!**

*Tickets at the door*  
Adults **\$10** Teens **\$5** Children **Free**  
\* **Pot Luck Dessert 5:30**  
**Silent Auction before the show**  
**Show starts at 8:00 p.m.**

# **NEW AUCTION HIGHLIGHTS**

At our **PERPECTIVES** Music Show  
here on Saturday, November 5

A few of many things you can bid on:

- Hamilton Philharmonic and Theatre Aquarius tickets
- Therapeutic massage
- Will and Powers of Attorney
- Computer/networking service/setup from Stephen Parks
- Working organic farm weekend
- Pen & Ink Drawing of your pet from Dorothy Lambeth
- Handyman Services (John Pegg and David McLaughlin)
- Babysitting
- Week at Mad Camp from Jude Johnson
- Creating your Family Tree from Linda Layton
- Stunning vacation home in Abruzzo, Italy (one week)  
from Susan Gudgeon

**Bid on a cornucopia of wonderful services donated by your fellow congregants as a church fundraiser. Plus enjoy a great stage show featuring original music by First UU musicians!**

**FOR MORE DETAILS**

- See our October newsletter
- Ask at the Festival Committee desk