



The Hamilton Unitarian

The First Unitarian Church of
Hamilton
Established 1889

October 2011
Volume 62, No. 9

Sunday Services 10:30 AM—all are welcome

Oct 2 The Catholics Among Us

Catherine Schuler

Who are the Catholics among us? What do they bring to the UU mix? While we often recognize UU roots in other faiths, we rarely ever mention Catholicism. Why? We speak of Buddhist UUs, Jewish UUs, Christian UUs, pagan UUs and Wiccan UUs but never of Catholic UUs. Today we will.

Oct 9 Social Action Sunday

Rev. Victoria Ingram and
the Social Action Committee

Join us this Sunday and experience a new kind of worship experience – Action Sunday! You'll have the choice of participating in a discussion, hearing a speaker on climate change, working in the garden, learning about the earth with your kids, or enjoying music and meditation as we explore what it means to live our Principles through our actions.

Oct 16 With Grace and Gratitude

Rev. Victoria Ingram
and Paul Hawkins

This year we kick off our annual canvass by considering the role of grace and gratitude in our lives. We will have just celebrated Thanksgiving, a holiday that reminds us of all that grace has brought us for which we are grateful – friends, family, work, play, joys and sorrows. For ALL that is our life, the hymn says, we give our thanks and praise. How do we keep our focus on being appreciative, in the face of all life brings our way?

Oct 23 UN Sunday:

Leo Johnson, Executive Director of Empowerment Squared

Mr. Johnson founded Empowerment Squared to help teens after he himself experienced life as a refugee in Liberia. After a long journey, he is now working with the UN to assist teens, women, those affected by HIV, and others, including efforts to establish the first library in Liberia

Oct 30 A Principled Life: Our Second Principle Rev. Victoria Ingram

The second in a series of sermons focused on our UU Seven Principles. UUs covenant to affirm “justice, equity, and compassion in human relations,” in a world filled with injustice, lacking in compassion, and grossly unequal in many respects. We'll explore how we keep energy for the journey when the end seems far from sight.



We have new phones

If you need to reach someone in one of these rooms, call the church number (905-527-8441) and dial the appropriate extension:

foyer - 226
kitchen - 227
room 7 - 228
room 9 - 229

And if you happen to be in one of these rooms and the phone rings, answer it - it might be for you!

~ Barb Wallace for the Management Committee

Church Emails

Booking Rooms

bookings@firstunitarianhamilton.org

Order of Service Submissions

os@firstunitarianhamilton.org

Deadline: Wed 9:00 am

Committee Minutes:

minutes@firstunitarianhamilton.org

Newsletter Submissions

newsletter@firstunitarianhamilton.org

Address/Email/Phone Updates

directory@firstunitarianhamilton.org

November Newsletter Deadline

November Newsletter Deadline:

Wed Oct 19

Please send submissions to
newsletter@firstunitarianhamilton.org

The Church calendar is online at
www.firstunitarianhamilton.org and on
pg 11 in the newsletter.

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

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

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 CommitteePaul Hawkins, Kathryn Cowley
 Greeters Co-ordinatorsJohn 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 CommitteeBill Fulton
 Social JusticeBill Johnston & Margaret McFadyen
 Fair Trade Task ForceJen Dawson
 Grandmothers to Grandmothers Ann Craig Howarth
 UU-UN Office Rep Todd Fraleigh

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

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 GroupsSandy 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

Canvass Comm Co-Chairs Paul Hawkins, Marilyn Waters
 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



One of our beloved hymns says in its lyrics: "We are going, heaven knows where we are going..." Sometimes I know, life can certainly feel that way – where are we going? Who knows? Well, according to our hymn, heaven knows!

And, it's a theological question for each of us to determine if we interpret that as a negative or a positive. How is it to live without knowing? With trusting that some force outside of ourselves may or may not have a larger plan that will take us to where we need to go? Does our theology lead us to trust the universe, leap and believe the net will be there? Or we more inclined to believe we are our own best resource for having our personal interests in mind as we look ahead to the future and project, plan and prepare?

Over the last year, we've been talking together about where we want to be going as a congregation as we move forward into the future. The lyric and aspirational Vision of this congregation hangs on the wall of our sanctuary, encouraging us to open our doors, love one another, be in service, and welcome others into our church community. Vision statements are hopeful and describe a state of being that we aspire to achieve. What they lack is a plan of action!

The next level of moving forward is to complete a Mission statement, and you all have been participating in

that process for First Hamilton, as well. A mission describes in more specific detail the identity and purpose of an organization. A Mission statement gives everyone in the congregation a touch point for decision making, for choosing among the infinite possibility of projects and efforts those that we feel most capable of achieving, responsive to our needs as a congregation, and focused on helping us be the people we hoped to be in our Vision.

Mission statements define and refine the actions of a congregation; they help us focus on what it is we are committed to doing together. Visions inspire us, Missions get us moving in the right direction. That's why it is so important for us at First to craft our Mission statement with input and insight from everyone in the congregation. We've come to this faith community seeking something. We've also come to this faith community with a desire to give, serve, share, and minister to one another and the larger community (and world.) Exploring what that means, and finding our common ground is energizing, empowering, and exciting.

Visions inspire us, Missions get us moving in the right direction.

Watch for opportunities to participate in the continuing work of refining our Mission statement. Be a part of building the future of First Unitarian Church of Hamilton.

With love and light, Victoria

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.

Get a guilt-free buzz October is fair trade month

Whether you drink it black, double-double or decaf, your coffee can both taste good and make a difference. Here are a few facts from First Unitarian's fair trade task force to quench your thirst for fair trade knowledge.

Coffee is the world's second most valuable commodity (only oil beats out the bean). Over 90 per cent of coffee production is in developing countries, but most of the drinkers are in industrialized nations.

In order to increase short-term productivity, poorer quality ("robusta") beans are grown on huge coffee plantations, which are created by clear-cutting forest and kept viable by large inputs of chemical pesticides and fertilizers. Plantation workers make pitiful wages.

Small scale coffee farmers—who make up more than half of the coffee producers globally—don't fare much better. Forced to sell their coffee to mercenary mid-level traders, they often make too little to support their families and their farm. They go into debt (often to those same mercenary mid-level traders) and, unable to make the high interest payments, lose their land.

Fair trade coffee is a taste-good, feel-good alternative. World coffee prices are set by the capricious New York and London Stock Exchanges—you may have noticed the price of coffee going up at the stores and cafés around town over the past year or so. The 5 million farmers involved in fair trade relationships are guaranteed a minimum price per pound of coffee they produce—an amount which allows farmers to cover costs and pay for their daily needs—and are given a bonus for growing organic beans.

These farmers sell to cooperatives and have access to low-interest loans, develop long-term trading relationships, and are provided with information and support for sustainable farming practices. Fair trade coffee is the higher quality "Arabica" beans, which are grown in

the shade of the forest canopy and thus do not lead to deforestation.

At First Unitarian, we act locally as well as globally: the fair trade coffee we sell on our Fair Trade Sundays (the third Sunday of every month in the church foyer) as well as serve during coffee hour is roasted in Hamilton at the Skydragon Co-operative.

This October, make a commitment to buy only fair trade coffee, whether it's from the church or from a retailer that sells fair trade certified products, such as Global Village Market in Westdale or even Fortinos. It's the only way you'll know your cuppa joe is truly good to the last drop.

Of course, coffee is not the only fairly traded commodity available in Hamilton. According to TransFair Canada, our country's fair trade certification body, the Canadian market for fair trade products has grown an average of 55 percent a year from 2002 to 2006.

There are now more than a dozen different certified fair trade products available here, including tea, coffee, sugar, sports balls, roses, spices and cocoa, which is why we sell more than just coffee on the third Sunday of each month—look for sugar, chocolate, cocoa and other fair trade baking supplies to satisfy your sweet tooth. An impressive selection of fair trade tea is available in smaller shops and big grocery retailers in the Hamilton area, which is why you won't see tea on our fair trade table. The selection is so huge we could never satisfy everyone's tastes.

Looking to learn more or get involved? Join us! First Unitarian's fair trade task force always welcomes new members. Email Jen Dawson at jdawson@interlynx.net for more info or stop by the fair trade table on October 16th.



Sunday Guest Speakers

October 2 Speaker: Catherine Schuler

Catherine Schuler has been a member of the Kingston and Toronto Unitarian congregations and is now proudly a member of First Unitarian Church of Hamilton. Her past work has included international banking and consulting; nowadays she quilts, volunteers and struggles to write. Raised as a Catholic and an American she's happily a convert to Unitarianism and Canadianism.

Prayer for October

A prayer of thanks, for this and that, these and those;
for from and to, then and when; for how and why, near
and far. But most of all for you and me, here and now.
Amen.

Edward Searl (Adapted)



From the Library Committee

The top five ways to guarantee that the library will be open whenever you want to browse, sign out or return materials are:

1. Check out the library before or after Sunday services. The library door is always open.
2. Come early or stay for a few minutes after a meeting you are attending at the church. The library door is always open.
3. Call the office to check to see if staff/volunteers are working. The library door is always...
4. Offer to take a 'key holder' church member out for coffee if they will meet up with you at church. The library door is...
5. And the top way is to host a meeting in the library so you can multitask because... you know the rest....

Overdue library resources:

It is wonderful to see books and other library resources leaving the shelves to be enjoyed by our congregation. The library committee wishes to ensure that the books are available for everyone so we are faced with the task of how to gently remind, nudge, and persuade congregants to return overdue books. Your library committee will be making contact with borrowers after library materials have been out for over a month to encourage returns. If you currently have overdue library materials, your effort to return them to the library asap is greatly appreciated.

Your Library Committee:

Linda Layton, Lynn Ablard, Mary Liz Fulton and Charlie Pond



from the Caring Committee
caring@firstunitarianhamilton.org

Passages

- Roy Dickinson received a pacemaker
- Ed Cannings' sister is now married
- Bill Fulton's cousin died
- Samara Wallace is recovering from heart illness
- Anne Wilson has been having difficulty with her illness, but is improving
- Anne Wilson and David Zulak have been partners for 20 years and married 7 years
- Charlie Pond has a new grand daughter, Scarlett
- Katherine Morrison is going to Uganda to work in maternal care
- Aukje Byker is waiting the arrival of a grandchild
- Crystal-Sue Brousseau's brother is a PhD candidate at the University of Toronto
- Allan and Joanne Tunnicliffe celebrated 42 years of marriage
- Patrick Campbell will be our new Youth Ambassador

PEACE IS IN YOUR HANDS



On the evening of October 24th our church will be hosting the United Nations Association in Canada – Hamilton Branch and Culture of Peace Hamilton as they celebrate the work of local Hamilton groups that are Building a Culture of Peace in our community. The event begins with a reception at 7 PM and will feature short (5 minute) speeches by leading Hamilton Social Justice Activists, highlighting accomplishments toward creating CULTURE OF PEACE IN HAMILTON over the past decade. The work is based on the 6 principles of UN Manifesto 2000 which mirror our UU 7 principles. The event will feature the premiere of a song (sung by members of our choir and other choirs) commissioned by Janet Hillen and created by **Rachel Derry**, our music director called **Peace is in Your Hands**. It is an evening of fun, food and fellowship. **It is open to all and there is no admission charge.**

Todd Fraleigh Chair
UU UNO



UU Families

Draft Mission:

Opportunities for UU Parents and children to come together to create relationships.

Co facilitators: Cathy Grise (grisec@mcmaster.ca)

Melanie Parish (coachparish@gmail.com)

Upcoming UU Families Dates for Fall 2011

- **Sept 25th** Lunch meet and greet for all families. Get to know other families. Lunch and Childcare provided. 12-2pm
- **October 22nd** Pumpkin Carving and Family Potluck-- 4-7pm
- **November 12** Parent's Night Out and Kids Movie night at the church 6-9 pm The kids have a movie party while the adults go out for dinner.
- **November 26th** Offsite Flamborough Santa Parade 6:30

Your Unsung Congregational Hero



Whom do you know who has been quietly contributing to this congregation over the years and has not been recognized? Please share your thoughts and recommendations about congregants who might be recognized in this column in the coming year with me. I welcome your suggestions and would love to learn more about what others have contributed.

Warmly
Gail

Gail Rappolt
Leadership Development Volunteer Coordinator

ART in the Foyer October

The Art in the Foyer for the month of October, entitled "Transitions" is by William LaFerla. William graduated from McMaster University in 1981 with an Honours BA, majoring in Art and Art History. During his artistic career he has had his own studio and gallery; first in Milton for 15 years, then in Toronto for 5 years.

He is now back in Hamilton where he has a home studio, and is currently teaching a Seniors Art Class here at the Church. Williams' art is in several collections throughout Southern Ontario.

This current exhibition is a visual portraiture of his life from infancy to present day; with all of its ups and downs. Similar to life, he views his art as an ever changing journey, always evolving and never really knowing will it will end.

How Can I Serve?

Early this fall the Board and Committee on Ministry are going to determine how the hours of the Leadership Development Volunteer Coordinator Role can be used most effectively during this church year. I have agreed to stay in the role til June 2012 and will be writing a final report to the Board in May with Rev. Victoria, based on input from Management Committee and Committee Chairs. During October I will be contacting Committee Chairs about the personnel and other needs they foresee in the coming year.

It is hard to believe but I have been piloting this role formally for 18 months now. It has been fulfilling, fun, challenging and most of all has allowed me to get to know many congregants at a much deeper level. I look forward to continuing my work with you and hope that I can make a valuable contribution to the life of the community over the next 10 months

Warmly

Gail

Gail Rappolt

Leadership Development Volunteer Coordinator.



PERSPECTIVES

**A happy stage show featuring original music
by our very own Hamilton Unitarian musicians**

Sat. Nov. 5, 2011 –right here at the church

**5:30 p.m. - Pot Luck Dessert
6:00-7:30 p.m. - Silent Auction
8:00-10:30 p.m. - Stage Show
Intermission – Live Auction**

**Adults \$10
Teens \$5
Kids free**

Hear, hear...it's all right here! A family-friendly festival of *original* music – instrumental and vocal.

Our church is known for its wonderful music – now enjoy it in a kaleidoscopic stage show featuring Hamilton Unitarian Musicians (“HUM” for you acronym lovers). All performing their own original compositions. (Or “their own stuff” if you want to be unstuffy about it...as we do!).

This fund-raiser for the church is being produced for the Festival Committee by our in-house maestros - our Choir Director, Cindy Carey and our Music Director, Rachel Derry. The show promises to blow the socks off new folks who may not yet fully comprehend the depth of the musical talent in our congregation. The rest of you...also prepare to be stunned by our first-ever “all-originals” stage show!

At the silent auction before the show and during intermission, you can bid on an incredible selection of special services (most of them dreamed up and personally provided by some of the most innovative people in this part of the country...our congregants!). So here's your opportunity to showcase your imagination and generosity. The Festival Committee will be in touch asking for auction donations...and they thank you in advance!

We'll also have an exciting live auction – your chance to acquire some very special services reserved exclusively for the live auction.

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Come early with your pot luck dessert contribution (another chance to be original...do we hear chocolate quinoa?) Join the gang at the tables in the R.E. area, then browse and bid at the silent auction tables before the show.

It's going to be a great evening – hope to see you there!

- Your Festival Committee

Our website: <http://firstunitarianhamilton.org/> **Check it out!**

Splinters from the Board, 24 August 2011 meeting

- The Board welcomed **Tamara McClelland**, and offered her our support as she settles into her role as Lifespan Religious Exploration Professional. It has been a long wait and we are delighted to welcome Tamara into our church community!
- Once the ongoing discussions regarding our Mission are complete, we will begin to prepare for a **Capital Campaign**. The goal(s) of the capital campaign will relate to specific elements articulated in our Mission.
- In the spirit of supporting our efforts to minimize the footprint of our congregation, **Annual Reports** for the 2012 Annual meeting will be distributed in electronic format. Printed copies will be made available for those who request them at the time of notice of the AGM.
- Committee Chair Appointments:
 - **Susan Gudgeon** was appointed as chair of the Music Committee.

Two ways you can help make our Nov. 5 stage show and auction event a big success

1. Donate an auction item (services only, please). Speak to or email Catherine Schuler ...by October 15, please.

To spark your ideas, here are some examples from our 2010 auction:

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| • Chamber Music Series tickets | • Yoga Lessons |
| • Computer Fixit | • Editing |
| • Electrical Work | • Hypnosis |
| • Facial | • Interior Design |
| • Haircuts | • Children's Services |
| • Harbour Sail | • Manicure |
| • Heath/Personal Services Certificates | • Mending |
| • Massage | • Opera Hamilton tickets |
| • Piano lessons | • Pen and Ink Drawing |
| • Myers Briggs Analysis | • Popera tickets |
| • Vacation Home | • Personal Trainer |
| • Will and Power of Attorney | • Tutor |
| • Handyman Services | • Tarot Reading |
| | • Theatre Aquarius |



2. Volunteer to help: we're looking for people who will:

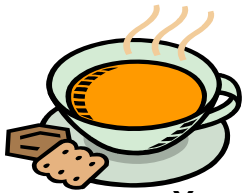
- help receive and organize donations in advance
- help organize auction & dessert table set-up, auction operation and cash-out on Nov. 5.

Please speak to or email Dave Adeney

From Membership Church Directory Pickup

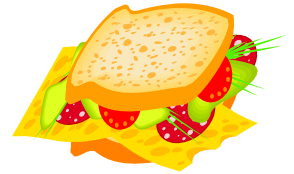
The 2011-2012 Church Directory will continue to be available for pickup by Members and Adherents the first two Sundays in October, October 2 and October 9. Ask for your copy at the Newcomers Desk in the foyer before or after the service.

Any Member or Adherent who wants a Directory and is not able to pick it up before or after Sunday services by October 9 is asked to contact Mary Scott by email or phone (maryiscott@sympatico.ca or 905-627-9577) to make alternate arrangements.



Let's do lunch!

Tuesday October 18, 11:30 to 1:30



You are invited—and so is the community—to lunch at First Unitarian

**Two soups, meat and vegetarian, and various sandwiches
Just \$1 (higher donations are welcome)**

On the third Tuesday of each month, the social justice committee is leading the church in serving lunch to the community in our fellowship hall.

The lunches are outreach effort to our neighbours. And they will provide nutritious food and social opportunities for the elderly, the working poor, students, the disabled and others who have diminished access to food in our community.

We'd like you to join us. Once a month, come here to buy lunch. Tell your friends—or better yet, bring them with you for lunch. Or volunteer to help pick up food on Sunday, prepare it on Monday or Tuesday morning, serve it or cleanup Tuesday at lunch and after.

If you switch one lunch a month that you'd buy elsewhere to our lunch program, you'll help the program break even and thus be sustainable. And having church members present ensures a welcoming atmosphere for community members.

This exciting outreach effort is modelled on the successful program at St. Stephen-on-the-Mount Anglican Church on Concession Street, which attracts about 120 people each month.

If you donated to the program during September, thank you. You have helped provide a solid base to get needed supplies and food. Further donations, of money or food or your time, are needed and welcome.

See Nancy McMartin, Anne Wilson, Bill Johnston or Margaret McFadyen for details.

Come out and share a meal with our neighbours.

—Your social justice committee



Board endorses Hamilton Climate Change Charter

Hamilton city council is being encouraged by environmental groups in the city to endorse a Hamilton Climate Change Charter. (You can read it online at http://www.climatechangehamilton.ca/webfm_send/15) The proposal was presented to council in September.

This church is among the charter's supporters. The social justice committee endorsed it in July and the board endorsed it in August.

Here's what the charter commits this church to do.

--keep informed about climate change. The social justice committee is responsible. The next step will be a presentation on climate change during the social action church service Oct. 9, as part of an innovative approach to worship that Sunday.

--establish a baseline of our current contribution to climate change. At a minimum, this means keeping and publishing a record of our energy use. Broader measures of our congregational impact could also be developed.

--set targets for reducing our greenhouse gas emissions. The

church has not yet done this but a 2008 audit of our building showed how we could reduce our emissions by 12 per cent by 2010 and 40 per cent by 2020. Property committee is looking at steps to reduce energy use and thus emissions.

--assign responsibility to a senior individual in the organization to make sure we meet these commitments. This is being looked at.

--report to the community and celebrate successes.

--engage and involve others to commit to the charter.

The board's support for the charter and its commitments is an example of living our seventh principle, that we affirm and promote respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part. It is also a step in carrying out the congregation's decision at the annual meeting in 2010 to seek to be reaccredited as a green sanctuary, a process we hope will build environmental stewardship fully into the life of the church.

--Your Social Justice Committee

Announcing the delectable return of...

The Greatest Dinners on Earth!

With your continued help (thank you, thank you!) The Festival Committee is planning to launch another series of congregant-hosted meal events for the fall and winter.

Here's how this church fund-raiser works:

- Hosts donate & prepare the food, and determine the theme and number of guests
- Great way to socialize with fellow congregants in different settings and themes
- Examples: various nationality dinners; hot tub dinner; fall hike with picnic; birding and lunch; skating party; 1960s dinner; board games & meal; laughter meal; sing for your supper; Hockey Night in Hockeyville; Masterpiece Theatre dinner; book review dinner; Sunday brunch; wine tasting; fondue meal; Reiki meal; movie dinner; Elvis meal; cooking lesson meal; make-your-own-pizza night; afternoon tea; travelogue with lunch; Grey Cup party; Canada Day party; St Patrick's Day dinner; whiskey tasting & folk music; wine tour & picnic; etc.!

Let your imagination run wild!

- Menu tone can vary; e.g. gourmet, casual fine dining, fun grub, buffet.
- Tickets (at various reasonable prices) are sold Sundays after church

The Festival Committee will be in touch by email to see if you'd like to donate. Remember – the meal you provide can be as simple as you like. The main idea is to have fun with church friends old and new...and raise a few dollars for the church in the process.

To donate a meal event, speak to or email Catherine Schuler.

To attend an event, first buy your tickets at the Festival Committee desk that will be in the foyer most Sunday mornings.

- Your Festival Committee



Food for Thought book group

Monday Oct 17 7:30
(Room 3 Church Library)

The Beauty of Humanity Movement
Camilla Gibb

Camilla Gibb's latest book... *The Beauty of Humanity Movement* is our book for discussion this month. In it she has written "a fascinating portrait of modern Vietnam.... the collision between personal and political, the overlapping of characters' stories and the tracking of their past and present lives that reveal the human connections that unite us all", *The Independent*, U.K. An educating and enlightening book

This discussion is open to anyone who has read the book.

~ Dawn Ludbrook, 905-627-4896

**The Library is now permanently
open. Please remember to sign
out all books**

Cheque requisition forms

For persons requiring cheque requisition forms, they are on a shelf in the mailbox near the washrooms under "cheque requisitions."

They can also be found on our website <http://www.firstunitarianhamilton.org/administration/FirstHamiltonChequeRequisition2011June.pdf>

OCTOBER 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>25 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM Lunch Meet & Greet-FH, Rm 10 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM Youth Min Group Monica Bennett rm 9 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM Courage to Change-Sanc.</p>	<p>26 2:00 PM - 4:30 PM Senior Art Lessons - FH 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM ARE-Tai Chi-FH 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Art Hanging Foyer 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Blooms for Africa Rm 9</p>	<p>27 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM Caring Community Committee Rm 9 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Social Justice mtg. Rm 9</p>	<p>28 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM End of Life Issues - Rm. 9 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM ARE Lotus Sutra-FH 7:00 PM - 9:30 PM Board Meeting Rm 9 7:00 PM - 9:30 PM Board Meeting Rm 9</p>	<p>29 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Choir Practice Sanctuary 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Rental: Mindfulness for Beginners Rm 9</p>	<p>30 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM Artists' Reception William LaFerla - Foyer, Kitchen - EVENT TIME 7-9pm 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Drumming Circle - Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>1 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM ARE Spiritual Retreat-Whole church- cancelled 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM FUUD-Rm 9 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Social Justice mtg. Rm 9</p>
<p>2 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM Courage to Change-Sanc.</p>	<p>3 2:00 PM - 4:30 PM Senior Art Lessons - FH 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM ARE-Tai Chi-FH</p>	<p>4 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</p>	<p>5 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM Writers Circle-Lib 1:30 PM - 4:00 PM Seniors Advisory-Rm9 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM ARE Lotus Sutra-FH 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM Modern Developments in Taoism Rm 9</p>	<p>6 8:00 AM - 10:30 PM Poling Station F Hall Elections Ontario 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Choir Practice Sanctuary 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Rental: Mindfulness for Beginners Rm 9</p>	<p>7 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Drumming Circle</p>	<p>8 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM FUUD-Rm 9</p>
<p>9 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM Spiritual Practices Group Rm 7 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM Young Adult Pot Luck-FH 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM Courage to Change-Sanc.</p>	<p>10 THANKSGIVING 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM Membership-Rm7 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM ARE-Tai Chi-FH</p>	<p>11 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 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Social Justice mtg. Rm 9 7:15 PM - 9:00 PM CYRE-Rm7</p>	<p>12 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Seniors Coffee & Conversation-FH, Kit 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM ARE Lotus Sutra-FH 7:00 PM - 9:30 PM Management Committee - Rm9 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM Modern Developments in Taoism Rm 7</p>	<p>13 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 Rm 9</p>	<p>14 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM Library Committee Meeting - Library 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM United Nations-Rm7 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Drumming Circle</p>	<p>15 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM RE Workshop - Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM FUUD-Rm 9 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM Benefit Concert - Sanctuary</p>
<p>16 Canvas Sunday Sanctuary Fair Trade Sunday 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM Courage to Change-Sanc.</p>	<p>17 8:30 AM - 9:00 PM Outreach Set up Social Justice comm. kitchen 2:00 PM - 4:30 PM Senior Art Lessons - FH 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM ARE-Tai Chi-FH 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM Book Group Rm 3 Library</p>	<p>18 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM Outreach Luncheons Kitchen, Fellowship Hall 1:30 PM - 4:00 PM Seniors' Slide Tour - Sanc 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.</p>	<p>19 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM ARE Lotus Sutra-FH 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Finance Com.-Rm7 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM Modern Developments in Taoism Rm 9</p>	<p>20 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Rental: Mindfulness for Beginners Rm 9</p>	<p>21 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Drumming Circle</p>	<p>22 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM FUUD-Rm 9 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM Pumpkin Carving & Fam Potluck FH & Rainbow Rm 6:30 PM - 10:00 PM Youth Dance Sanct</p>
<p>23 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM Rental- Rm 1/foyt/kit 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM Courage to Change-Sanc.</p>	<p>24 2:00 PM - 4:30 PM Senior Art Lessons - FH 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM UNAC Rental-Sanc/foyer 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM ARE-Tai Chi-FH</p>	<p>25 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Mandala Workshop Rm. 9 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM Children's Hero Program-FH, Rm 9, Rm 11, Kit</p>	<p>26 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM ARE Lotus Sutra-FH 7:00 PM - 9:30 PM Board Meeting Rm 9</p>	<p>27 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 Rental: Mindfulness for Beginners Rm 9</p>	<p>28 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Drumming Circle 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Music Night - Sanctuary</p>	<p>29 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM FUUD-Rm 9 4:00 PM - 9:00 PM Seniors' Halloween Party F Hall & kit</p>
<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 9:00 AM - 10:00 PM Nov/Dec. Art Show Drop off Rm3 2:00 PM - 4:30 PM Senior Art Lessons - FH 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM ARE-Tai Chi-FH</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 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM Children's Hero Program-FH, Rm 9, Rm 11, Kit 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM Spirit in</p>	<p>2 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM Writers Circle-Lib 1:30 PM - 4:00 PM Seniors Advisory-Rm9 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM ARE Lotus Sutra-FH</p>	<p>3 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Choir Practice Sanctuary 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Rental: Mindfulness for Beginners Rm 9</p>	<p>4 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM Group Art Reception Foyer & kitchen 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Drumming Circle - Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>5 9:00 AM - 11:00 PM Fall Festival stage show and silent & live auctions. Whole Church 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM FUUD-Rm 9</p>

News From the— Lifespan Learning

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Thank you all for the warm welcome and for helping me to adjust in this new world. How energizing to meet so many people on Ingathering Sunday. Another one of the great joys of starting out here is when someone pops in to

my office for a visit on weekdays (it can get a little quiet here in between Sundays!) Thanks for coming by to introduce yourselves, and for all the help along the way.

Those of you who have seen the new CYRE brochure for 2011/2012 may have noticed that classes are not categorized according to age group. The CYRE committee would like to see children attending classes that speak to their level of interest. An eight year old may be drawn to the sophisticated discussion happening in Seven Principles, while an eleven year old may be enthusiastic about a science experiment she heard is coming up in Chalice Club. There will be opportunities for both classes to work together at times, and a curriculum can evolve as we go along.

I also make it my own personal policy to schedule lesson plans on my calendar in pencil. Religious educator Dan Harper wrote about this philosophy on his wonderful blog "Yet Another Unitarian Universalist." What should the teacher do, he asked, if in the beginning of class, one of the children mentioned that her friend at school said she is going to hell because she does not believe in the right things? Should everyone just move along, and get to the lesson plan, or should this rather monumental share *become* the class?

There's a lot going on to get the youth group

up and running again. During a recent round of e-mails, many of us in CYRE shared ideas about what we want youth group to look like. Of the cuff, I began to describe my own mission statement about what I want to help create. Here's some of what I said:

I want to

- create a safe space where they know that they are welcomed and know that they are loved.
- provide a haven in the midst of everything else going on in their busy lives.
- provide fun **and** structure
- broaden their perspective, so they will develop a really strong heart for social justice
- offer something to their future selves, not just in the present moment. When they are having a bad day in 10, or 20, or 30 years, I hope they will remember something someone said to them at youth group that will still provide comfort and inspiration. I had teachers who did that for me, and I want to be able to pass it on.

As I reflected on this later, I realized this vision has a much wider application than just the youth group. This is my wish for everyone in religious exploration – at any age, during the entirety of their lifespan.

What are *your* thoughts? What is it *you* hope to create? I am enjoying finding out.

I wish you a beautiful autumn!

Tamara