

First Unitarian Universalist Church of Winnipeg



The Communicator

April 2021



Religious Exploration begins at 10:00 am for children and Sunday Services 10:30 am for church service

The theme for April is Restoration

All services are streamed via Zoom; please check our website for the link/dial-in information: uuwinnipeg.mb.ca

April 4, 2021

A Tomb is No Place to Stay

Service Leader: Rev. Meghann Robern & Nicole McKay

Service Coordinator: Dylan Fijal

Even though we have roots in Christianity, UUs have a very different perspective on Easter than what you'll find in a mainline church. Our emphasis on Jesus as a *human* teacher and community organizer asks us to reckon with the idea that the tomb was *not* empty; that he died and did not resurrect. So what does it mean for *us* to be the ones to resurrect love and meaning in the wake of tragedy and loss?

April 11, 2021

Snitches & Stitches

Service Leader: Rev. Meghann Robern
Service Coordinators: Marian Siemens & Pamela Hardman

There is a huge difference between being a "snitch" and speaking up when experiencing or witnessing harm. It's also important to recognize that harm can come from words and attitudes as much as physical attacks. We will celebrate our child dedication ritual, and explore how good boundaries that centre those who have been harmed can lead to restorative justice and healing for all, of any age, including those of us who have done harm.

April 18, 2021

Restore Our Earth

Service Leader: Nicole McKay

Service Coordinator: Odell Havsdotter

As part of the interdependent web of all beings, we recognize and affirm that a healthy Earth is not an option - it is a necessity. What began as a revolution 50 years ago has now turned into a global observance of Earth Day. We continue our commitment to this much needed restoration through listening and connecting with the wisdom of Earth-centered traditions and science. This work is our collective responsibility.

April 25, 2021

Hello, Goodbye, Hello

Service Leaders: Rev. Meghann Robern & Nicole McKay

Service Coordinator: Steve Lennon

To say hello is to be open to the new and to the unknown - a new friend, a new colleague, a new way of looking at something. Saying goodbye often means letting go, saying farewell to a loved one, a lifestyle, or an idea that has lived its time out, and looking to trust in the future. In this service we'll be releasing our student minister, Nicole McKay, to the next stage of her formation, welcoming new members into our covenant, and exploring how a sustainable community moves through hellos, goodbyes, and hellos once again.



IN THIS

Issue

- 1 Sunday Services
- 2 From the Minister's Study
UU Virtual Easter Hunt
Adult Programming
- 3 Faith Development
- 4 Board Notes
Child Dedication
- 5 A Candle to Remember
- 6 - 7 Relaunching the Memorial Garden
- 8-9 REfrigerator Pages
Share the Plate
Stitch Circle
Congratulations
- 11 Archives and History Team
Who's Who

The deadline for the **May 2021** issue is: **Tuesday, April 20th, 2021**

From the Minister's Study

by Nicole McKay, Student Minister



When I think of restoration, I think of bringing something back to its original state or bringing it back to life.

There are people who can restore old cars, who look for just the right parts to keep its integrity. Others who can restore furniture using the right varnishes and fabrics. Some still who know the intricate and deliberate work of restoring art pieces and books so that we can once again appreciate them in all their splendour. No matter where we engage in the work of restoration, it takes careful attention, practice, and learning.

The Cambridge dictionary defines restoration as "the act of process of returning something to its earlier good condition or position, or to its owner." This month, I invite us to reflect on our relationship with the Indigenous Peoples of these lands, some of whom are among us in this congregation. What does restoration mean in this context? Restoration in this context is asking us to live into the respect and dignity that should be found in all our relations and that has been lacking in our past and in our present. This is the work of building relationships and tending to them with care and attention.

This month, I have also spent time listening and learning about the restoration of stolen lands from Indigenous Peoples. I have heard the heartbreak and the anger at this ongoing process and the harms that continue to be perpetuated as a result. I have spent time with my own sense of injustice around this wondering why it is taking so long and frustrated that there is no clear

answer. As I try to understand these larger-scale issues and processes, what I can do right now is choose where I spend my time - in the work of reconciliation. What can I do to move closer towards healing?

What will you do this month? Will you take some time to learn about the lands stolen from Indigenous Peoples or perhaps learn about lands near you that are being restored with the intent to give them back in good condition? Will you take time to nurture relationships with Indigenous People and organizations advocating for justice?

Where we choose to spend our precious time and attention speaks volumes about what our priorities are. I hope you will join me in our ongoing commitment to reconciliation by committing your time to learning, listening, and relationship building.

Lastly, I want to name that this academic year has gone by quickly and my time with you comes to an end this month. I have been honoured to be a witness to your stories, your growth, your challenges, and your joys. I am moved by the way you care for one another and the thoughtfulness of your discussions. I am grateful for all you have taught me and that you will be part of my formation story as a minister. You have challenged me and helped me grow into my ministerial identity, something which I will take out into the wider world beyond our congregations. As we say goodbye for now, I trust that this congregation will continue to engage in all of the important and sacred work of learning, sharing, worship, and social justice. Post-pandemic, should my work have me travelling through Winnipeg, I will be sure to say hello.

May you be well,
Nicole



Click on the photo and you will be taken to the website.

Adult Programming Committee News

by Sonya Watson

Committee plans for the spring include:

- Puzzle lending library - continues
 - Meditation program - continues
 - Zoom discussion based on Brene Brown's Netflix video 'The Call to Courage'
 - Possible bridge program
 - Possible outdoor visits in church yard, registration required
- Keep an eye on Wednesday weekly announcements for details!

Can you help with a program? Do you have a program idea? Please contact Doreen at dibsstroud@gmail.com or Sonya at swatsonwpg@gmail.com.

Living Our Faith

by Andrea James, Director of Lifespan Faith Development



We're in a tricky time during this pandemic, when there is hope in the form of vaccines and a greatly-reduced local

test positivity rate (at least when this was written), and yet there is still so much unknown, and a rise of new strains that the vaccines may or may not counter.

We know this is a marathon, rather than a sprint, but we don't really know - a year in - where exactly we are in that marathon. Has the starting gun only just gone off? Are we half-way through... or more? Most of us have hit at least one wall so far - perhaps many - and powered through. Listen, I'm not a runner. But I'm pretty sure that marathons are hard enough without the finish line moving all the time.

We are collectively experiencing trauma, though how that trauma will impact each of us depends on many factors. And so I wonder, what are you doing to restore your spirit? Some of us have taken up new creative challenges, learning how to make sourdough or sewing masks, for example. Last summer my partner cooked his way through our collection of cookbooks. This is wonderful and I celebrate your new hobbies as much as I celebrate every time one of us gets a vaccine. And... this hasn't been true for all of us. I, for example, have not added a hobby, I've lost some. I can't read for pleasure much

these days. We've lost our sports teams, our arts events, our normal ways of being social.

So again, I wonder, how are you caring for and restoring your spirit? In our *Wellspring: Sources* groups, along with learning about the six Sources of Unitarian Universalism and how they connect to our lives, we also explore spiritual practices. We've played with meditation, drawing, prayer beads, guided visualisations, gratitude, knitting, and more.

In *Faithful Practices: Everyday Ways to Feed your Spirit*, Erik Walker Wikstrom lays out [eight types of spiritual practice](#): personal, communal, partnership, mind, body, soul, family, and justice. (pp. xii-xiii) Arvid Straube, in describing [Integral Transforma-](#)

[tive Practice](#) (ITP) offers "four areas: mind, body, heart, and spirit." (p.19). If you already have a

regular practice, might you consider adding something that supports other areas?

Perhaps you're looking for a project that can double as a spiritual practice! You might look into "[Great Story Beads](#)[:] a symbolic representation of the 13.7 billion year epic of Cosmos, Earth, Life, and Humanity, told as a meaningful story that embraces all other stories — including one's own personal journey."

Whatever you choose, may you grow a practice that sustains you through these times and beyond. Over the coming months, look for information about upcoming Faith Development programs to support you on this journey.

In faith and with love,

Andrea

dlfd@uwinnipeg.mb.ca

Faith Development Notes

April

- 1** April RE Packet will arrive by email around now
Wellspring: Sources with Andrea, 6:00-8:00 pm
Youth: Cosmic Connections, 8:00 pm
- 3** Covenant Group Facilitators' Group, 10:00-12:00 (1st Saturdays)
- 4** **RE - 10:00-10:20 am**
- 5** Owning Your Religious Past, 6:00-7:30 pm
- 6** Elders Reflections, 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 pm (1st Tuesdays)
- 8** Wellspring: Sources with Rev. Meghann, 2:00-4:00 pm
Transgender Inclusion in Congregations, 2:00-4:00 and 6:00-8:00 pm
Youth: Cosmic Connections, 8:00 pm
- 11** **RE - 10:00-10:20 am**
- 13** 2nd Tuesday Covenant Group, 9:30-11:30 a.m.
- 14** 2nd Wednesday Covenant Group, 6:00-8:00 pm
- 15** Wellspring: Sources with Andrea, 6:00-8:00 pm
Youth: Cosmic Connections, 8:00 pm
- 16** 3rd Fridays Covenant Group, 9:30-11:30 am
- 18** **RE - 10:00-10:20 am**
Youth: Super Group, 5:00 pm (3rd Sundays)
- 20** 3rd Tuesdays Covenant Group, 7:00-9:00 pm
- 21** 3rd Wednesday Covenant Group, 9:00-11:00 am
- 22** Wellspring: Sources with Rev. Meghann, 2:00-4:00 pm
Transgender Inclusion in Congregations, 2:00-4:00 and 6:00-8:00 pm
Youth: Cosmic Connections, 8:00 pm
- 25** **RE - 10:00-10:20 am**
- 26** 4th Mondays Covenant Group, 7:00-9:00 pm
- 29** Youth: Cosmic Connections, 8:00 pm

Board Notes

by Lauren Bailey, President



Hello everyone,

Thank you to everyone who has made their pledge already on our website at <https://uuwinnipeg.mb.ca/stewardship/>

[pledge/](https://uuwinnipeg.mb.ca/stewardship/pledge/). Every pledge helps us better know how to budget for the upcoming church year. Our pledge drive runs until April 25, but you can make your pledge after that, if need be.

Remember, even if you are planning on keeping your pledge amount the same and on the same direct deposit information as last year, please pledge so you can be counted.

If you are having trouble using the online pledge form, please email pledgeteam@uuwinnipeg.mb.ca for help.

The finance committee is currently creating our draft budget which will be available this spring.

And finally, at the March board meeting, the board decided that the AGM will be after service on June 6, 2021. Information will be coming out in the next few weeks around committee reports, so please start compiling information now. We will be hosting the meeting over Zoom, using the same Zoom link as the Sunday service, and, as we did last year, we will take a break between the service and the meeting to allow folks some time away from the screen.

Your board meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 18:30 on Zoom. Are you interested in attending? The meetings are open to all church members - email me to get the Zoom link. Exceptions for some topics will occur for confidentiality reasons.

I want to hear from you. You can contact me at president@uuwinnipeg.mb.ca.

Child Dedication

by Andrea James, Director of Lifespan Faith Development



In Unitarian Universalist tradition, when we dedicate children we celebrate their life, their place in their family, and in the congregation. As a community, we covenant to support the family, and to share our wisdom, counsel, and love as the child grows as one of us.

Children may be dedicated at any age, and we affirm all families. Those who've been dedicated elsewhere and children who have new names and/or would like to be rededicated with their correct gender are welcome.

Our next Child Dedication will be April 11, 2021. Please [complete this form](#) to take part in the service.



A Candle to Remember

by Gini Martin

"To know nothing of what happened before you took your place on earth, is to remain a child forever." Anonymous
This month's Candle to Remember celebrates:

Lotta Hitschmanova 1909—1990

Original manuscript adapted by Nancy Gilbert; edited for the Communicator by Gini Martin.

Sixty years ago it seemed as if everyone knew Dr. Lotta Hitschmanova and her creation, the Unitarian Service Committee (USC Canada). From her distinctive TV and radio PSAs promoting the humanitarian work of the USC, she made its address, 56 Sparks Street, Ottawa 4, one that all Canadians could recite.

Lotta was born in Prague, Czechoslovakia, in 1909. Lotta received diplomas in five languages and a PhD from Prague University; AND a Sorbonne diploma in French studies. She studied political science and journalism at the Sorbonne. In Prague as a freelance journalist expressing anti-Nazi sentiments, she had to flee ahead of the German army. By 1941 she was in Marseilles, France. The immigration office could not help Lotta with a visa. They did need a secretary and interpreter fluent in French, English, German, Spanish and Czech. She was happy to help.

While queuing for food one day, hungry and tired, Lotta collapsed on the street. She was taken to a Unitarian Service Committee clinic, an outreach of the American Unitarian Association. When a visa came from

Canada, she arrived in Montreal in 1942. Within three months, she was in Ottawa with the Department of War Services. She also wrote articles, made speeches on behalf of refugees, and joined the Ottawa Unitarian church.

After the war in 1945, Lotta remained in Ottawa to organize a Canadian branch of the USC to



undertake relief and reconstruction work in war-ravaged Europe. In 1948, American insistence that every program be run by an American led her to reorganize this committee as an independent organization, USC Canada. She was its director for 38 years, establishing 150 aid programs in 20 countries.

By 1949, Lotta Hitschmanova was logging 17,000 km on her annual cross-Canada tour, speaking 96 times in 36 locations and raising \$50,000. She persuaded generations of Canadians to aid children in post-

war Europe and Asia. She spoke in uniform, recognizing the value of adding stature and authority to her small frame.

Dedicated but not always easy to work with -- described as iron-willed, single-minded and demanding. When Dr. Hitschmanova gave the Chancellor's Lecture at Brock University in 1973 she explained her principles:

"We must come as an open-minded friend and good listener when offering help; say goodbye to a project when it can continue on its own; serve with a personal touch, because a relationship of confidence must lift your aid beyond the realm of a simple business proposition and prove that you really care."

Dr. Hitschmanova received awards, including the Gold Medal from the Red Cross of France, the Medal of St. Paul from Greece, both Officer and Companion of the Order of Canada. She died in 1990, her memorial held in the Ottawa Unitarian Church.

We thank you, Dr. Lotta, for showing us how to put our values to work.

Note: Since October 2019 USC Canada is now called SeedChange. For more information see their website at <https://weseedchange.org>

If you have a suggestion for a Candle to Remember, contact Marlene Schellenberg and the Candles of Car-ing at candles@uwinnipeg.mb.ca

Relaunching the Memorial Garden as UU Celebration Park Project

by Liz Redston

We last talked about the Memorial Garden project back in 2018 and a lot has happened since then. We put the project on hiatus so we could focus on the urgent need to replace our heating system.

Then we ran a capital campaign and worked on getting the parking lot finished.

And then, well a pandemic came along. So, it has taken a while to find the time to refocus our energy on the Memorial Garden project. And now is a great time to think about our property, and look forward to all that we will once again enjoy doing together at our beautiful home.

And so, we are delighted to relaunch and re-name our project the UU Celebration Park, which with your input and feedback, will include a Memorial Walk Way, a scatter garden for the remains of our loved ones who have died, a Celebration Pergola for special events, services, activities or simply gathering with friends and family, and a Riverside Reflections bench area.

We will be hosting three discussion and feedback sessions in April to bring you up to date on this project and hear your thoughts on the elements we are proposing. We have three event dates coming in April - check out the zoom details at the end of this article. Events will be as follows:

- Sunday April 18th – coffee time after church via special zoom link
- Monday April 19th – 2 pm
- Monday April 19th – 7 pm

Come prepared to share your thoughts on what UU Celebration

Park means to you and your family, and how you feel about end of life plans for memorializing yourself and loved ones.

Memorial Project Background:

We began work six years when we created the Memorial Garden as a Legacy project for our 125th Anniversary with the goal and mandate to create a conceptual plan in partnership with HTFC- one of Winnipeg's leading landscaping firms. Once we have our conceptual design finalized we will vote as a congregation to accept this plan as our vision for what we want to create – when and how we have the funds and energy to do so. With our new look at this project we are focusing on what is affordable and doable for our congregation and hopefully with some sweat equity to help us get there in the next few years.

To date the project has included the following elements:

- An outdoor "garden space" designated for scattering the ashes of community members
- Outdoor area designated for simple memorial markers for members who have died (Name, dates)
- Space for other types of commemorative plaques that could potentially honour people, events, our faith and community
- Outdoor area to sit, gather, reflect, meditate, honour, celebrate
- All outdoor design elements should enhance overall use and enjoyment of our space for the congregation and potential rental opportunities, supporting a wide

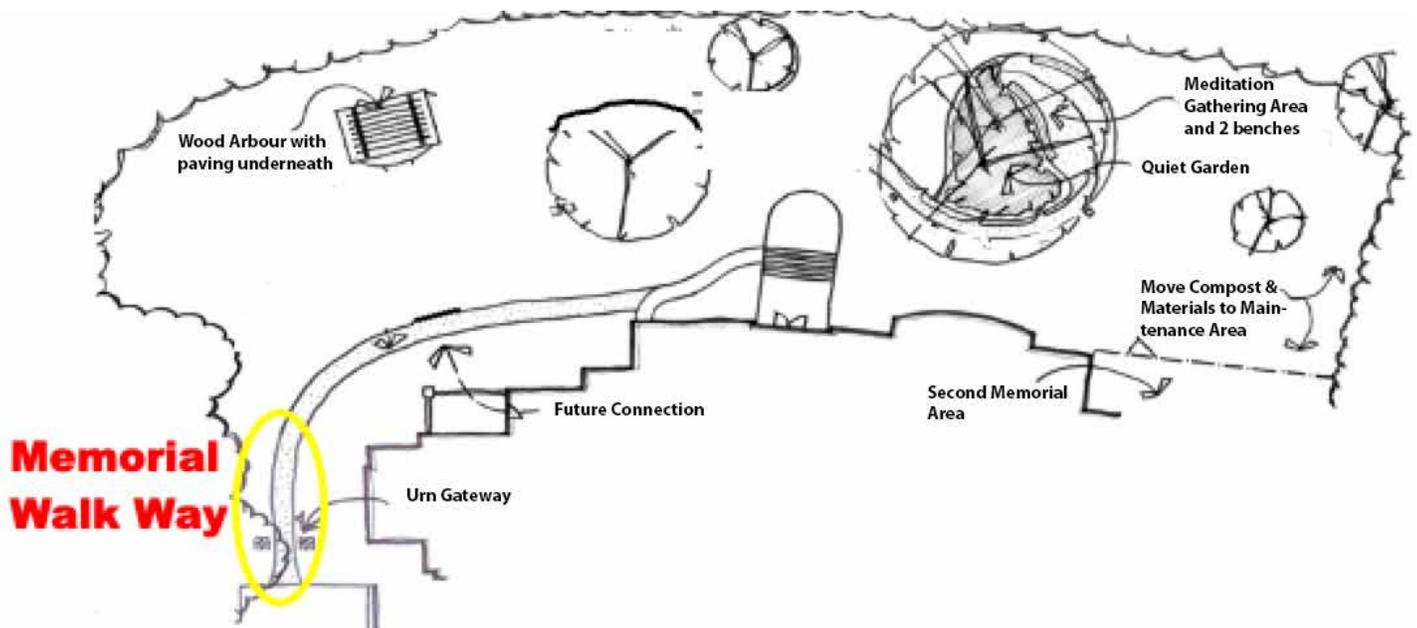
variety of uses, celebrations and events.

- Other memorializing ideas include: a master book with legacy stories, obituary or eulogy for people from our community who have died, if their ashes are scattered in our garden and where their memorial marker is located.

Our Guiding Principles:

- Built for longevity and legacy
- Design aesthetic that fits with our building and property
- Professional support for landscaping design, plans and construction
- Financially self-sustaining as a goal after construction (users pay for memorial markers)
- Adopt "green" and accessible design standards where possible
- Easy to care for the space and plantings – low cost and low effort annually
- Clear Operational Guidelines – easy to manage

Many of the above "memorial" features of this project can be accomplished with or without a significant landscape development plan. Our project intention up to this date has always been to include a landscape plan that offers space to not only honour loved ones who have died, but space to enjoy as a congregation for celebrations, events, gatherings, Sunday services, RE activities, rentals and much more. The image shared is the current plan we are working towards and during our feedback sessions we want to hear your thoughts on what is important to you.



Key features of UU Celebration Park:

- Accessible entrance path from west side of property
- Memorial Walkway with fence wall and/or posts to hold memorial markers
- Celebration Pergola on patio or accessible deck – with electrical access
- Riverside Reflection sitting area under the large tree
- Select areas designed for commemorative markers or engraved paving stones
- Scatter garden (not shown on this picture plan) located at front southeast corner of the sanctuary

- next to walkway ramp and accessible brick pathway
 - Phased project approach – easy to do in stages
 - Focus on natural beauty elements – light landscaping, natural plants and trees
 - Focus on planning for affordability and sweat equity
 - Must meet City Zoning requirements – no heavy construction, or piled posts into ground
- Join us for a UU Celebration Park discussion and feedback session:

Sunday April 18th at 11:45 am or right after the church service during coffee time on a new zoom link.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81091397913?pwd=ZWgzUG5ZT3RtZ2JtSFVBbkM3MENRQT09>

Meeting ID: 810 9139 7913
Passcode: 448364

Monday April 19th 2pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86949095375?pwd=VGg3WW1TMUEwZC9FTmhzdmV5NmtQZz09>

Meeting ID: 869 4909 5375
Passcode: 063524

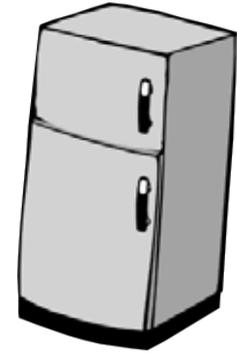
Monday April 19th 7pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88452742252?pwd=SkNvZTFjVkhSIBXcDFjcCtQVTO2QT09>

Meeting ID: 884 5274 2252
Passcode: 337900



RE-Frigerator Page



We Celebrate...

Our theme for April is Restoration. Restoration is when you try to make something new again, to fix it so that it goes back to being the way it was—or at least some version of that.



People restore antique furniture or old houses, bringing them back to their former glory (although usually people want restored old houses to have modern electricity

and plumbing). But you can also restore broken relationships. If you have fought with a friend and you feel like you'll never want to see them again, it's still possible to work

things out and go back to enjoying the closeness you had before. You might end up even closer than before, since you both cared enough to listen and apologize and work things out.

It is a reality of life that things break or wear out or get mistreated. But Restoration reminds us that if we are willing to put in the effort, many things can be made like new again.

Family Quest
of the Church of
the Larger
Fellowship

April 2019



We Honor...



Usually in this spot we honor a person from our UU history, but this month, which brings us Earth Day, seems like a good time to honor the UU Ministry for Earth. The motto of the UUMFE is "Respect Life. Restore Earth. Renew Spirit."

The earth and its complicated ecosystems are suffering badly from the cost

of humans taking what they want without regard for our non-human family. But it turns out that those ecosystems are not only fragile, they're also resilient. And so many times it is possible to restore earth, to make a way for both individual species and whole habitats to recover from the harm that humans have done to them.

The UU Ministry for Earth is an organization that recognizes how important it is to our faith to participate in care and responsibility for our planet. And they know that in working to heal our planet we can restore our own spirits to health.

Through work in our congregations, our communities and in connection with other organizations, UUMFE supports and challenges Unitarian Universalists to live into the wholeness of our "respect for the interdependent web of all existence, of which we are a part."

Talk About It!

- ☺ What do you wish could be restored?
- ☺ How have you worked to restore a thing or a relationship?
- ☺ Do you think that it is possible to restore something that has been damaged to the way it was, or will it never be quite the same?

Act...

One of the ways that things get broken in the world is when people commit crimes. Most often the "justice system" deals with crimes by sending people to jail or other forms of punishment. But punishment is about revenge, not trying to fix what has been broken.

Restorative justice is a process that tries to deal with crime in a different way, by inviting the person who was harmed into the process of trying to figure out a way to return things as much as possible toward wholeness.

The website restorativejustice.org describes it this way:

Restorative justice views crime as more than breaking the law - it also causes harm to people, relationships, and the community. So a just response must address those harms as well as the wrongdoing. If the parties are willing, the best way to do this is to help them meet to discuss those harms and how to about bring resolution. Sometimes those meetings lead to transformational changes in their lives.

So, for instance, if someone stole

your bicycle, you would almost certainly be mad, and likely want them punished. But in a restorative justice model, if you know who took the bike, you might be able to sit together with that person in a safe space and tell the person how the loss of your bike made you feel, and what you want them to do to make it right. And the person would have a chance to apologize, and not just return the bike, but also respond to their understanding of how they hurt you.

How might you practice restorative justice when you, friends or family do something wrong?

Nurturing the Spirit

Spirits definitely fall into the category of things that can need to be restored. When we are busy or stressed or worried or just focused on a bunch of different things, we can start to feel not just tired, but also like we are losing track of our deepest self.

There are lots of things you can do to restore your spirit, from petting a cat to getting out in nature. But one of the simplest—if maybe the hardest—is the practice of silence.

We are used to having information and sound and stimulation coming at

us from all sides—computers and phones and music and television and more. It can be hard to step away from it all and just get quiet. After all, silence is really boring!

But if you sit through the boredom for a while and just notice your thoughts go by, without trying to direct them in any particular way, you might notice that you become more centered, more aware of your spirit, instead of the millions of other voices around you.

Draw a before and after picture of something being restored.

Going to the Sources



As shown by the UU Ministry for Earth, our Seventh Principle

~~~~~  
Respect for the interdependent web of all existence, of which we are a part

~~~~~  
is connected to our commitment to restoring the earth to health and sustainability.

Are there ways you could help to

restore the earth? Some communities take on stream restoration projects, in which they let streams in cities go back to their natural paths, and plant native plants to hold up the banks. Might you be able to plant native plants in your own garden and build habitat for butterflies and bees? Even picking up trash is a small way of returning that bit of earth to something closer to its natural state.

Learn more about the UU Ministry for Earth at: uumfe.org

Read an article about using restorative justice in schools: <https://www.parenttoday.org/bringing-the-lessons-of-restorative-justice-home/>

Share the Plate

by Marlene Schellenberg



The Sunday morning Offering is a weekly ritual of giving and one expression of our 7 Principles

in action. As part of the Offering, the Share the Plate program allows us to practise that form of love we call generosity. Through Share the Plate – where we share with a local non-profit organization – each of us has an opportunity to make a difference in the wider community, even by sharing a dollar or two. Each month we share one half of our open plate cash offerings with a charity nominated by one of our members.

The Share the Plate Partner for April 2021: Trees Winnipeg

Trees Winnipeg is a non-profit charity dedicated to promoting awareness of the benefits of trees in Winnipeg's urban areas, with a focus on tree diversity and care. They were founded in 1992 in response to the ongoing threat of Dutch elm disease that has resulted in the removal of 33,000 elms trees since 2016; the equivalent of 330 city blocks. Trees Winnipeg is known for their ReLeaf program, which facilitates tree planting for private property owners, and for their annual Arbor Day festival, the city's largest public event dedicated to trees. For more information, please visit treeswinnipeg.org.



Join the Stitch Circle

by Liz Redston



Monthly on the 4th Tuesday
Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 27th
7:00 pm on Zoom

Come join our new Stitch Circle with a group gathering on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 7pm. You can find the Zoom link on the church calendar and shared below or in the weekly email updates.

Join Zoom Meeting at:
<https://zoom.us/j/93189944303?pwd=OUFFamtzSzNITGdxN0htOXE1b3RUQT09>

Meeting ID: 931 8994 4303
Passcode: 389181
One tap mobile
+14388097799,,93189944303#
Canada
+12042727920,,94004095567#
Canada
Dial by your location
+1204.272.7920
Meeting ID: 931 8994 4303

We are working on a **collaborative project to create a fabric wall hanging** with stitched squares contributed by as many people as possible.

We are delighted to share a sample square recently completed by Marlene Schellenberg.



Congratulations!

The Nellie Mc Clung Foundation has chosen 150 Women Trailblazers. Among the 150 is Margret Jonsdottir Benedicsson. She is one of the founders of our church and a founder of the first Ladies' aid/Women's society. There is more information on the Nellie McClung Foundation website.

Archive and History Team Relaunching UU Website Content

by Liz Redston

We are pleased to share that the Archive Committee has gathered some new energy and a renewed focus of activity.

During the winter months Lynn Clark has been busy sorting files and content for collection. Then along with Marlene Schellenberg, Liz Redston and Gini Martin the group has been looking at history stories that were previously on our website before we migrated to the new platform. Recognizing that sharing our history is an important part of keeping our legacy alive the Archives Mission and Mandate is being renewed to include ways to proactively share our history and stories. In looking at website content the group talked about how our stories need to engage and excite people who are exploring our community online.

The target audience for much of our website content should focus on new comers or seekers, as this is often how people first learn about our community. Of our existing membership is also key audience and our website can help people understand more about who we are now and where we have come from with a well curated collection of stories from our history.

By the end of April we will have new content and a new focus on our website for our historical stories grouped into the following themes:

Our Congregation - stories and articles about our church community, buildings, and congregation history

Living our Values - this speaks to who we are and how we engage with the community

Our Manitoba History - our Icelandic roots and all the great stories about UU's in the prairies

UU World History and People - sharing the global context and links to other important sites that offer insight on our roots

Member Stories - not yet ready but on the list for future development this topic area could share the Legacy Stories from our members, testimonials or credo statements and much more.

Are you interested in history or have time to share assisting with archival organization activities? There is lots to be done in terms of organizing our archive documents and we also need people with good writing skills for helping with website content.

If you would like to get involved send us an email at: archives@uuwinnipeg.mb.ca

Who's Who

Minister

the Reverend Meghann Robern
minister@uuwinnipeg.mb.ca

Student Minister

Nicole McKay
nmckay@uuwinnipeg.mb.ca

Director of Lifespan Faith Development

Andrea James
difd@uuwinnipeg.mb.ca

Lay Chaplain

Barb Shearer

Board President

Lauren Bailey
president@uuwinnipeg.mb.ca

Pastoral Care Coordinator

Bonnie Thiessen
pastoralcare@uuwinnipeg.mb.ca

Music Director

PJ Buchan

Choir Accompanist

Paul Rodermond

Caretaker

Ray Aikens

Webmaster

Karin Carlson
webmaster@uuwinnipeg.mb.ca

Rental Events Director

rentals@uuwinnipeg.mb.ca

Newsletter Editor

Marjorie Doyle
communicator@uuwinnipeg.mb.ca

Editorial Assistant

Linda Henderson

Office Administrator

office@uuwinnipeg.mb.ca

Please submit materials to the editor Marjorie Doyle by email to: communicator@uuwinnipeg.mb.ca or 204.663.2126

The **deadline** for the **May 2021** issue is:

Tuesday, April 20th, 2021

The opinions of the authors are their own and do not necessarily represent those of the Board of Directors, the editorial board, the newsletter editor, or the church minister.

The 1st Unitarian Universalist
Church of Winnipeg
603 Wellington Crescent
Winnipeg, MB R3M 0A7
Telephone: 204.474.1261
Fax: 204.284.2639

Office Hours:
Monday to Friday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
www.uuwinnipeg.mb.ca