

# Weekly e-UU Newsletter ~ Friday, October 27, 2023

We acknowledge that our campus is located on traditional, unsundered and unceded Algonquin Anishinaabeg Territory; and that the work of [reconciliation is a responsibility of our congregation](#), and of all Canadians.

**Sunday, October 29, 2023**

**Online AND In Person**

***Starts at 10:30am***



## **As Love Shows Us How – Part Two**

**With Reverend Eric Meter**

This Sunday we honour the gifts we bring with us, as well as what we receive from being part of a community that celebrates life with all its challenges, opportunities and moments of pristine beauty.

*Join us after the service, in Fellowship Hall, for Coffee Hour*

*Due to this week's Fall Congregational Meeting, there will be no Online Fellowship Hour until Sunday November 5.*

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### **Sunday Service Announcements**

If you would like an announcement made during the livestreamed Sunday Service, please email the Board of Directors at [bod@firstunitarianottawa.ca](mailto:bod@firstunitarianottawa.ca) by Friday at 10am. Do allow for time in case there are questions with regard to the announcement. Also note that announcements may need to be edited for length and that time-sensitive announcements may be prioritized.



## **Children's Religious Exploration**

Rather than starting upstairs in Worship Hall, we'll be celebrating Halloween this Sunday with a party in the NOW room for all the children (2-12) starting at 10:30am. We'll carve pumpkins, decorate cookies, have face painting, and tell a spooky story. Costumes are encouraged!

## **Mark Your Calendars**

**The Fall Congregational Meeting is scheduled for Sunday October 29th after service.**

The Fall Congregational Meeting will take place in Worship Hall on Sunday October 29th at 12:15 pm sharp.

The main purpose of the meeting is to review and approve the congregation's budget for 2024, to appoint members to the Nominating Committee as necessary, and to inform ourselves on other matters. Bring a brown-bag lunch or snacks for before the meeting if you like. (Note there is no food allowed in Worship Hall.) If you wish, you may join the meeting virtually on Zoom. However, **if you are a voting member, you must select a proxy for yourself as there will be no online voting.** You can find [instructions for selecting a proxy in the meeting materials](#), which were circulated to members on October 19. Please visit the Member Page, or contact the office, if you did not receive your package.



## **Campus Planning Town Hall Follow-Up**

Whoops! Unfortunately, the recording for the Campus Planning Town Hall last Sunday failed, and is not recoverable. We apologize to those that missed it and had hoped to watch it on our YouTube channel.

[Our Affordable Housing web page](#) contains the two slide packages that were presented at the meeting. If you have specific questions or concerns, you can email Terry Kimmel at [campusplanning@firstunitarianottawa.ca](mailto:campusplanning@firstunitarianottawa.ca).



## Congregational Focus: Climate Action



Ask your friends to join you for Aella's "The Earth is Tired" concert! They will thank you. Sign our petition: Time for yellow to go green! Sum up the four year congregational focus by checking out our October Enviro-Action! Paste some post-it notes at church or [email them to Donna](mailto:donna@firstunitarianottawa.ca) and she'll do it for you! Details here: <https://www.firstunitarianottawa.ca/climate-action.html>

## Caring Contacts for October

[Marianne Wood](mailto:marianne@firstunitarianottawa.ca) - 613-725-3452

[Carolyn McAndrew](mailto:carolyn@firstunitarianottawa.ca) - 613-422-8390

## Caring Contacts for November

[Clea Derwent](mailto:clea@firstunitarianottawa.ca) - 613-694-0505

[Stan Pope](mailto:stan@firstunitarianottawa.ca) - 613-680-1090

*We are all interconnected, interdependent and minister to each other in many ways. Our monthly Caring Contacts take your phone calls and emails when you wish to alert us to a need or a concern or have a joy to celebrate. We try to ensure no one is forgotten and that appropriate help is provided when requested.*

## The Pledge Campaign is Moving Right Along

Thanks to those that have already pledged. For those that have not submitted their pledge yet a volunteer will be giving you a call to check in. "Pledge as if your congregation depends on it" by [filling out your pledge form online](#), downloading [this print-at-home version](#), or picking up a paper copy in the Volunteer Room.

## Join Our Big Team Effort for Fall Fair

For our biggest annual fundraiser, the Fall Fair, having enough volunteers is key to success. Even one hour is appreciated! There are many roles available as we work toward the Saturday, November 18 sale, some of them requiring as little as one hour of your time. Help is needed for sorting and selling, setting up and taking down, baking and more. For more information, [contact fallfair@firstunitarianottawa.ca](mailto:fallfair@firstunitarianottawa.ca).

Please visit our Volunteer With Us page for details: <https://www.firstunitarianottawa.ca/volunteer-with-us.html>

Chuck Shields, Volunteer Coordinator - [volunteers@firstunitarianottawa.ca](mailto:volunteers@firstunitarianottawa.ca)

## Read All About It



### Bigger Than Ever!

Did you know? Fall Fair, on Saturday, November 18, will be bigger than last year, with Electronics, Small Appliances & Tools, Outdoor & Large Items and a sit-down Lunch Room again included. Please download or pick up sale and donation posters to distribute, and check the Fall Fair pages on the FirstU website for updated donation criteria. To volunteer or send questions, [contact fallfair@firstunitarianottawa.ca](mailto:fallfair@firstunitarianottawa.ca).



### Wanted: Baking and Jam/Preserves for Fall Fair

Cookies, squares, muffins, small loaves, tarts, candy and more. Please **NO nuts or large cakes**. Bring to the Lower Kitchen on Friday November, 17. For more information, [contact Evelyn](mailto:evelyn@firstunitarianottawa.ca) at 613-728-5761.



### Parkway Spire: Change in Submission Deadline

The Spire Team is extending its normal deadline of the 15th of the month, to accommodate those involved with Fall Fair activities. **This edition's submission deadline is November 22.** Please send your unformatted articles (maximum 450 words) along with photos (high resolution jpg format preferred) to [spire@firstunitarianottawa.ca](mailto:spire@firstunitarianottawa.ca) either before Nov. 13, or between Nov. 19-22. That will leave us with a very short turnaround time, but we will do our best to ensure the December Spire is published on time!



### Help Promote Fall Fair!

Fall Fair, coming up on Saturday, November 18, is our major congregational fundraiser! Pick up great posters at the back of the church to give your friends and put up around your neighbourhood. For donation criteria, see the [Fall Fair Donations page](#). And please volunteer some time. Questions? [Contact fallfair@firstunitarianottawa.ca](mailto:fallfair@firstunitarianottawa.ca).



## Save the Date: FirstU's Winter Choir Concert Sunday, December 3 - 7:30pm

You'll hear everything from Christmas carols to jazz standards to beautiful contemporary classical music. Mark your calendars today!

## Upcoming Events

### Friday (Daytime) Reading for Growth Group Friday, October 27 - 1:30pm on Zoom

For October we will be reading *Sacred Nature: Restoring our Ancient Bond with the Natural World*, by Karen Armstrong. This work explores religions and spiritual traditions that revere nature. The profound insights of these traditions can help us regain a sense of awe at the sacredness of nature, cultivating awareness to end harm inflicted on the web of life. Join us on October 27 at 1:30pm.

[ZOOM LINK](#) Meeting ID: 848 6931 2703 Passcode: 002396



### Memorial Service for Reverend Brian Kopke Saturday, October 28 - 10:00am in Worship Hall

Join us for the memorial service of Reverend Brian Kopke, who served the FirstU community from 1985 to 2007.



### Fall Congregational Meeting Sunday October 29 - 12:15pm (hybrid)

The main purpose of the meeting is to review and approve the congregation's budget for 2024, to appoint members to the Nominating Committee as necessary, and to inform ourselves on other matters.

This meeting requires voting and registration; details with an agenda were circulated to members last week. If you did not receive your materials, please see the additional info in the announcement in the 'Mark your Calendars' section of this week's eUU (above).



### Meditation Group Wednesday, November 1 - 7:00pm on Zoom

Join us on Wednesday evenings for online meditation plus readings from teachers like Thich Nhat Hanh.

[Click HERE to join the meditation session](#) Passcode: 259109



### Film Screening: "Passage to Freedom" Wednesday, November 1 - 7:00pm at FirstU

The joint FirstU and Or Haneshamah Refugee Team are pleased to present "Passage to Freedom", a 2022 Canadian documentary directed by Sheila Petzol and produced by Hearts of Freedom. A major oral history research project based at Carleton University, the film captures the stories of those who embarked on perilous voyages from Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam to Canada. Don't miss the opportunity to watch this powerful film! Doors open at 7:00pm. By donation (\$10/person suggested), limited silent auction.



### FirstU Virtual Discussion Circle Thursday, November 2 - 1:30pm on Zoom

Discussion circles are held weekly, with a different topic each week. No pre-registration is required, just drop in by clicking on the link. We look forward to seeing you! This week, our topic is "Heaven and Hell".

[ZOOM LINK](#) Meeting ID: 847 7145 7780 Password: 350030



### New Members' Sunday Sunday, November 5 - 10:30am

The service will include a live welcome and introduction of people who have become members since March, 2020. The service will be followed by a special celebration of our new members and our community in Fellowship Hall. All are welcome.



### Aella Concert: The Earth Is Tired Sunday, November 5 - 3:00pm in Worship Hall

The Environmental Action Group and Aella vocal ensemble are thrilled to bring you a unique environmental experience to mark the culmination of FirstU's four-year congregational focus on Climate Action. Aella hopes to speak to the collective feelings of climate anxiety and grief that have been intensifying in recent years, while leaving audience members feeling empowered, aware, and hopeful. As well, we will host a variety of environmental groups active in Ottawa before and after the concert. There will be a post-concert reception.

[Click HERE for more information](#)

[Click HERE to purchase tickets \(by donation\) in advance](#) OR make your donation at the door.



Visit our calendar for more upcoming events: <https://www.firstunitarianottawa.ca/calendar.html>

## Save the Date

### Just Get Over It - Interactive Workshop Tuesday, November 7 - 6:00pm on Zoom

Members of the First Peoples House of Learning team at Trent University facilitate this interactive story-telling workshop which explores the true historic experience of Indigenous peoples in their relationship with settlers in North America. Their engaging, approach offers participants a meaningful way to let go of common misconceptions, stereotypes, and biases that many of us hold and to become informed partners with Indigenous people for new ways forward. [Email adultlearning@firstunitarianottawa.ca to register.](mailto:adultlearning@firstunitarianottawa.ca)



### Evening Reading for Growth

Thursday, November 9 - 7:00pm on Zoom

For our November discussion, we'll be reading *When the Heavens Went on Sale*, by Ashlee Vance, which tells the remarkable, unfolding story of the "land grab" of Earth's lower orbit. Come enjoy a lively book discussion on Zoom.

[ZOOM LINK](#) Meeting ID: 890 6025 2628 Password: 845374



### Fall Fair!

Saturday, November 18 - 9:30am

Come enjoy some seasonal and pre-Christmas shopping. You'll find a great selection of gift items, clothing, books, silent-auction items, toys and games, linens, knitted goods, home baking and lunch items, and much more! Please bring your own shopping bags.



### Trivia Quiz Night

Monday, November 27 - 7:00pm on Zoom

Join us for our Trivia Quiz! Questions are diverse, fun, and taken from several sources, and there is no need to feel embarrassed about getting an incorrect answer: players score themselves! All you need is a pen or pencil, paper and your "thinking cap". Play alone or team up with a partner or two! For more information, [email Andrew](#).

[ZOOM LINK](#) Meeting ID: 826 7932 3410 Passcode: 101004



## Unitarian Universalist nUUs



Canadian Unitarians for Social Justice presents:

**The State of Assisted Dying in Canada**

Saturday, October 28 - 1:00pm online

In the Series: "Let's Connect UU Social Justice" our next Speaker is Chris Jones of **Dying with Dignity Canada**, the Director of Government and Stakeholder Relations. He will provide a detailed analysis of the major changes to the Criminal Code that DWDC is seeking and the broader political backdrop against which that is happening. [Click HERE to register](#).



### Recording Available

A Zoom presentation from Independent Jewish Voices last Sunday is available with Q&A about Gaza, Hamas and Israel. For privacy concerns it is not being made public and will only be available to registrants and other interested parties on our mailing list. [Send your request to \[cusjmedia@gmail.com\]\(mailto:cusjmedia@gmail.com\)](#).



### UU Women's Federation's (UUWF) Gender Expansive Infographic

[Click HERE to see the UUWF's infographic guide](#) to quick and easy actions that you can take to support trans and gender expansive people, designed to give you inspiration, information, and pathways to get involved in the fight to end gender-based violence.

## Chez FirstU



Harmony Concerts presents: **The Fugitives**

Saturday, October 28 - 7:00pm at FirstU

The Fugitives are capable of achieving dizzying, Arcade Fire-ish crescendos, replete with parallel melodies, complex harmonies and brimming torrents of emotion. [Get tickets HERE](#).



Harmony Concerts presents: **Jenie Thai**

Friday, November 3 - 7:00pm at FirstU

With a combination of contemporary and traditional blues piano, and a fiery passionate voice, Jenie "Thai" Nolan has been making a name for herself across the country and the world. [Get tickets HERE](#).



Dapaah, Despax play **Mozart and Schumann**

Saturday, November 4 - 7:30pm at FirstU

Join us for an enchanting evening of classical and chamber music as pianist John Kofi Dapaah and the Despax String Quartet take the stage to perform the timeless compositions of Mozart and Schumann. Prepare to be transported to a world of beauty and emotion as these talented musicians showcase their virtuosity. [Get tickets HERE](#).

Get the eUU in your inbox: <https://www.firstunitarianottawa.ca/communications.html>