

# Weekly e-UU Newsletter ~ Friday, November 10, 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, November 12, 2023**

**[Online](#) AND In Person**

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



## **At Home With Peace and Justice**

**With guest minister Reverend George Buchanan**

In 2006 George Buchanan was ordained as a Unitarian Universalist minister by this congregation. He has since retired and moved back to the area. As we worship together, George will reflect on what it means to be home, and the kind of home we envision for ourselves and those who come after us.

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

*Please Note: Online Fellowship Hour until further notice.*

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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**

This Sunday, we'll start in the Sanctuary, then proceed downstairs for RE with Jodi and Susan.

## Splinters from the Board

Last Sunday afternoon we held our Fall Congregational Meeting (FCM). For those interested, a recording should be available from the Members Page of our website. We covered a lot of ground: We reviewed and approved a budget for 2024 despite a significant deficit. We appointed a new auditor, a task long overdue. We replenished our Nominating Committee. We agreed on a new two-year Congregational Focus "Cultivating Compassionate Communities"; you'll be hearing more about this soon. One important thing we did NOT do was proceed with a resolution to update our Charitable Purposes... at least not just yet. Our lawyer had some last-minute procedural advice for us which was too hard to address at the FCM. So we will revisit that one item at a special follow-up meeting, perhaps in late November. We regret any confusion this may have caused, but we need to get the job done correctly, and with an appropriate chance for consultation. Your comments are always welcome.



## Congregational Focus: Climate Action



Hope you participated in this past Sunday's remarkable event, "The Earth is Tired". Aella's choral performance was outstanding, there was much interest in our environmental exhibitors, and the audience was large and appreciative. **Climate action as a congregational focus is winding down...** but for the Environmental Action Group it will remain a central concern, and we plan to maintain a strong congregational presence. The Climate Action Page will continue to be updated with news, current advocacies and actions, special events and more. Please follow us. **Thank you to those of you in the congregation who have encouraged and supported us over this past four years. We welcome your further participation.**

Details here: <https://www.firstunitarianottawa.ca/climate-action.html>

## Caring Contacts for November

[Marilen Gerber](#) - 613-848-1688

[Stan Pope](#) - 613-614-3750

*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.*

## A Reminder From the Pledge Team

A pledge this fall is a promise to contribute in 2024. You do not need to send the money when you make the pledge. You can [fill out your pledge form online](#), download [this print-at-home version](#), or pick 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. [Click HERE to see which rolls still need filling](#). For more information, [contact fallfair@firstunitarianottawa.ca](mailto:contactfallfair@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



### Want to know your ancestral roots? Want to raise funds for FirstU? Why not do both?

Hobby-genealogist, Barry Read, has prepared over 50 family trees for members and friends of FirstU. He will research your roots using civil and church and census entries, and provide you with a comprehensive three-ring binder with your detailed ancestral and family trees. What does it cost? Upon receiving and reviewing your personalized binder, simply make a suitable (but non-tax-receptable) donation to FirstU according to your means. If you are interested in finding out more or to ask questions, please email Barry at [baread@rogers.com](mailto:baread@rogers.com) or call 613-592-3369



### Just One Week 'Til Fall Fair!

Just one week till the big Fall Fair sale on Saturday, November 18! Donated goods can be brought to the church Monday, November 13 through Thursday, November 16. Do [check the donation guidelines](#), and no drop-offs on Friday please! Congregants with limited mobility or other health issues preventing them from shopping on Saturday are invited to a presale (certain sales areas only) on Friday, Nov. 17, 10:30 to 11:30. [Additional volunteers for during the week and on sale day are still welcome.](#) [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, [email Evelyn](mailto:email Evelyn) or phone her at 613-728-5761.



### White Poppies

Again this year, Members of First Unitarian of Ottawa will be offering white poppies to congregants. As well as a red poppy, a white poppy helps us remember all killed in conflicts. With two wars now killing, now is a time to reflect for peace.



### Volunteer with The Bookshelf

Volunteers need to help staff the bookshelf. Requirements: You must like books. You must like people. And you must be willing to staff the bookshelf one Sunday per month. [Contact Marg Z](mailto:Contact Marg Z) if you'd like to get involved.



### Parkway Spire: Change in Submission Deadline

The submission deadline for the Winter edition of the Parkway Spire has been extended to November 22. Watch for further submission details in the October 17 eUU.

## Upcoming Events

### Meditation Group

**Wednesday, November 15 - 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



### FirstU Virtual Discussion Circle

**Thursday, November 16 - 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 "**Beauty**".

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



### 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.



### Mah Jongg

**Monday, November 20 - 10:00am in Room 3**

Experienced Mah Jongg players are invited to join us for a fun game of Mah Jongg, on the third Monday of every month in Room 3. We are playing American Mah Jongg - with 3-4 people per table - using the 2023 game card. Please bring your own



card. [Email Barb Ryan](mailto:Barb.Ryan@firstunitarianottawa.ca) or phone her (613-710-3131) by Friday, November 17, to RSVP. If you can bring a game, please let her know when you RSVP.

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

## Save the Date

### Friday (Daytime) Reading for Growth Group

**Friday, November 24 - 1:30pm on Zoom**

Our November book selection, available at Ottawa libraries, is *Stolen Focus: Why You Can't Pay Attention and How to Think Deeply Again*, by Johann Hari. Concerned about his increasing inability to focus and after failed experiments to 'detox' from his devices, the author interviews experts on human attention to uncover what societal forces explain our attention deficit. All are welcome.

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



### In Person Bridge

**Sunday, November 26 - 2:00pm in Room 3**

Join us in Room 3 for a fun game of bridge, on the third Sunday of every month.

Email [bridgehost@firstunitarianottawa.ca](mailto:bridgehost@firstunitarianottawa.ca) to RSVP.



### 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](mailto:Andrew@firstunitarianottawa.ca).

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



### FirstU Online Bridge

**Friday, December 1 - 7:00pm on Zoom**

Join us online for a fun game of bridge, using Zoom and Bridge Base Online, on the first Friday of every month. Email [bridgehost@firstunitarianottawa.ca](mailto:bridgehost@firstunitarianottawa.ca) to RSVP and get the links and ensure your spot.



### 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.



### Evening Reading for Growth

**Thursday, December 14 - 7:00pm on Zoom**

For our November discussion, we'll be reading *My Stroke of Insight* by Jill Taylor (How a brain scientist's own stroke led to enlightenment).

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



## News From Our Friends

### Ottawa Woodwind Project

**Saturday, November 11 - 7:00pm at UUFO (400 McArthur Ave)**

The Ottawa Woodwind Project will perform a medley of songs to fit the season - spooky tunes, songs written between 1915 and 1945 in recognition of Remembrance Day, and some old favourites inspired by Autumn. Admission is free!



### Saint Paul University presents

**The Banker Ladies: Voices from the Black Political Economy**

**Thursday, November 16 - 1:00pm - 95 Clegg St**

Professor Caroline Shenaz Hossein will speak about her recent work documenting savings groups and credit associations created by racialized women as a response to decades of financial racism at the hands of conventional financial institutions. Space is limited, [Click HERE to register for this free, in-person talk](#).



Theatre of the Beat presents:

"I Love You and It Hurts"

Saturday, November 25 - 7:00pm - 1830 Kilborn Ave

This show is comprised of three short plays that reflect lived experiences of elder abuse, healthy masculinity, and intimate partner violence in youth relationships, with a focus on how to recognize the subtle early signs of abuse. [Click HERE for more information.](#) Admission is by donation at the door.



## Chez FirstU



**Harmony Concerts: Christmas with Heather Rankin and Sam Stone**

**Saturday, December 2 - 7:00pm**

Canadian sweetheart Heather Rankin followed her Juno Award Nominated solo album, A Fine Line, with a Christmas album, Imagine. Her angelic voice wraps her listeners in coziness and nostalgia with both original songs, and traditional songs she grew up singing at Christmas. [Get Tickets HERE.](#)



**Harmony Concerts: Anna Ludlows Christmas Kitchen Party**

**Saturday, December 9 - 7:00pm**

A down-home East-Coast Christmas with Anna and Ottawa Valley Country Music Hall of Fame inductee Gail Gavin, fusing the traditional Cape Breton music of the Scottish Gàidhealtachd with a modern percussive vibe. [Get tickets HERE.](#)



**Harmony Concerts: A Miss Emily Christmas**

**Friday, December 15 - 7:00 pm**

"An angelic voice with just a hint of sultry devilishness. This gal is a rocket ready to take-off!" (Rob Baker). [Get tickets HERE.](#)



**Harmony Concerts: Six13**

**Sunday, December 17 - 7:00pm**

Juxtaposing the traditional and the contemporary, Six13 is a groundbreaking, six-man a cappella vocal band that is bringing an unprecedented style and energy to Jewish music, with nothing but the power of the human voice. [Get tickets HERE.](#)

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