



THE CHALICE

OCTOBER 2017

A Note from The Rev. Peter Boullata

Congregations have a reputation in the wider community just the way individuals do. One of the ways that congregations grow their membership, programs, and ministry is by paying attention to the ways in which their actions communicate their mission and identity to the broader world.

What actions do we take as a congregation that communicate our Unitarian Universalist values? What do those neighbours curious about the Unitarian Fellowship of London see us doing?

Your Board of Trustees and your minister have been thinking about these questions. Something that I am suggesting is for our membership to think of and enact outreach and social action events, with a small team of leaders, within a set period of time: four such events, with a team of at least four people, that can be started and completed within four months. Four-four-four!

These are not necessarily four consecutive outreach happenings—each one following after the previous one is completed—but can be happening simultaneously or overlapping as different teams act on different events.

What kinds of actions are we talking about? Some recent examples of what our membership has already done include:

- the team of our congregation members who picked up trash by the side of the road, and enjoyed some fellowship time with each other after, raising some money for organizations that share our values
- marching in Pride Day and staffing a booth in the Pride festival
- the summer day camp that offered programming based on Unitarian Universalist values to children both within and beyond our congregation

We're looking for your ideas for time-limited ways of being of service, that help our congregation be more visible in the community. These can be one-off events that you plan and lead with a small group of your friends from the UFL.

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Sunday Worship Schedule 10:45 a.m.

October 1 - First Sunday Potluck Brunch -
Leader Bob Harrington.

Topic - Our Covenant
(Please bring a breakfast food to share.)

October 8 - "Giving Thanks"
Service Leaders - Eileen Howay, Karen Kidd
and Edie Delange.

*(Donations made on this Sunday will be do-
nated to Trinity United Church to help sup-
port their Hospitality Meal.)*

October 15 - "Whole Church Service"
Lori Otte and Children/Youth of RE

October 22 - "Bound in Freedom"
The Rev. Peter Boullata

Religious liberals cherish our freedom. We
also are caught up in a network of relation-
ship with others. In the mutual covenant of
our congregational life, how do we balance
our individuality with community?

October 29 - "Community of Love,
Memory, and Hope: A Service of
Remembering"
The Rev. Peter Boullata

Our covenanted community can include
those who have gone before: our familial,
religious, and social ancestors, those role
models who showed us what was possible for
our own lives. On the occasion of Samhain
(the basis for our secular holiday of Hallow-
een), the Celtic observance of remembering
the dead, you are invited to bring a memento
to this service to memorialize somebody you
have lost. We will create a sacred table of
the objects we bring as we remember those
who have preceded us.

From Rev. Peter Boullata - continued from page 1

Bring your ideas to me or any member of the
Board. Help us see what UU principles, val-
ues, and virtues your project embodies. Who
will be part of the team leading or putting
your project into motion (remember, at least
four people!)? In what ways will this event
help our neighbours know something about
our mission and purpose as a liberal religious
community? Can it be completed (from start
to finish) within four months?

We are excited to hear what you will come
up with! Wouldn't it be great to review with
pride and enthusiasm our four (or more!)
events at our annual business meeting in
May?

What do you think?

Yours in service,
Rev. Peter Boullata

To Reach Rev. Boullata

I am available to meet and visit with you pri-
marily on Sundays that I am at the UFL,
(generally, but not always, the second and
fourth Sunday of the month) between 3 and 6
p.m. It is best to email or call ahead, and to
arrange with me in advance if you'd like to
make an appointment or have me visit with
you during those times. I am sometimes
available at other times, so check with me.

Email: rev.peter.boullata@gmail.com

Telephone: 519-451-0424, press 2.

Notes from the Board

Our congregational year is well underway. People are finding their way back after the summer. It is hard to believe it is October already. Personally I am looking forward to some more seasonable weather. The September services have been insightful and meaningful. We are pleased to welcome Alex Chen who will share the role of pianist and choir director with Eric Charbonneau.

Committees are up and functioning. I invite you to look in this newsletter for a list of which board member has which committee in his or her portfolio so you can communicate any ideas or issues with that board member.

On September 10, Rev. Peter and I held a discussion about a webinar we both participated in about revitalizing smaller churches. About ten people attended. We discussed the pros and cons of a smaller congregation. While large congregations have more financial resources, smaller congregations can be more nimble, flexible and responsive. It is easier to build community. We talked about what we do best as a congregation and how we can be more welcoming to everyone. One of the things the webinar stressed was to be bold, curious and open and to have the courage to change things up.

We are preparing to welcome Unitarian Universalists from across the Central Region (Toronto to Sarnia) at the Regional Fall Gathering on October 28. With this in mind, we are announcing a change in the congregational calendar. **The Annual Services Auction, usually held in the fall, will be held January 27, 2018.** I'm sure we will all be ready for a party by then! Who knows? We may even decide we like the Services Auction in the winter.

As Company is coming; we have been doing some "sprucing up". Last week Allan Grose, Bill Ratcliffe and our tenant, Dave Honcoop, built a new fence at the front of the of Meeting House south to the property line. It looks wonderfully clean and polished. It also greatly improves the children's space behind it. It seems to lift up the whole property. Thank-you Allan and Bill!

There are also plans in the works to redecorate the front hall to make it a more welcoming space; a space which lets people know who we are as Unitarian Universalists. This was discussed at the small group session on revitalizing smaller congregations as well as at the Board Retreat in the summer. If you are handy with a paint brush we would love to have you help.

We are a very generous congregation. We truly appreciate everyone's contributions of time, talent and treasure. Thank-you.

~ In Community, Judith

Regional Fall Gathering

The UFL is pleased to be hosting this year's Regional Fall Gathering. This is a one-day gathering which will consider ways we build communities of meaning and support – beloved community. There is also a junior youth Mini-Con for ages 10-13. It's a chance to join with UUs from across the Central Region for a day of connecting, learning and being in community together.

Workshops will be led by The Rev. Peter Boullata, The Rev. Linda Thomson and Asha Philar, CUC staff lead for Youth And Young Adult Ministry. Several of us attended the Gathering in Waterloo last year and found it to be a rewarding and enriching experience. It is wonderful to meet UUs from other congregations. Please consider attending. Go to <http://cuc.ca/event/central-region-fall-gathering-2> for more information and to register.

Judith Warren and Karen Kidd are heading up the setting up and venue logistics, and Allan Grose and Kat Proctor will coordinate the food. We are looking for volunteers to cook and to help with set up, clean up, check in and help with hospitality questions. We are also looking for people who may have an extra room and could billet a registrant from out of town. Please talk to Judith, Karen, Allan or Kat.

Board Responsibilities 2017-18

Judith Warren (President): jdthwarn@gmail.com

Denominational Affairs, Worship, Board Chair

Kat Proctor (Vice President): woodfieldkat@rogers.com

Membership, Care Team, Volunteer Development, Personnel

Ann Klinck (Past President): ann.klinck@gmail.com

Communication, Children's RE, Secretarial Duties (may be reassigned later in year)

Alastair Henry (Treasurer): alhenry@gallerycanada.com

Finance, Stewardship Campaign (to be shared with Board as a whole)

Allan Grose (Living Tradition): lloyal8@gmail.com

Social Action, Adult Programs, Lay Chaplaincy, Property

Coming Soon : On-line Access to UFL Information

In last year's communication survey members indicated that they would like online access to UFL information (e.g., the Members and Friends Directory, Governance Documents, Board Minutes.)

Over the past year, I have been developing a Google Drive to store UFL files and information. In addition to assisting current and future Board members with their responsibilities, the Drive will allow centralized, on-line access to UFL information for members of the UFL community.

What is Google Drive?

Google Drive is a place where information can be stored, shared, and even created on-line. Think of it as a high-tech filing cabinet on the internet (in cyberspace, in the "cloud"). The UFL has custody of the information and can give "permission" to others to access this information.

How will it work?

Members of our community will receive an email giving them access to the Members and Friends folder. Clicking on the link provided will open the folder and allow access to the contents.

If you have a Google account (i.e., you use gmail), you will also be able to access the Members and Friends file from your own Google Drive (yes, you have one). For those who don't use their drive or use a different email provider, just save the email with the link to access up-to-date information at any time.

Is the Google Drive secure?

Yes. Information is stored in a secure file system. However, highly sensitive information will NOT be stored on the drive (e.g., personnel contracts, individual pledge information). Individuals with access are expected to use the information for its intended purpose: to keep up with UFL news, and to conduct UFL business.

Can I download/print information from the Drive?

Yes. If you wish to read a document off line, or print a copy of the directory to keep near your phone you can download and/or print documents. All information will be stored as PDF files.

Will instructions be provided?

Yes. Basic written instructions for accessing information will be available when we "go live" with this project. I will also provide a demonstration one Sunday after the service to those who prefer a more hands on approach.

Ann Klinck, Past-President, UFL Board

News from RE

As we begin our year in Children's Religious Exploration, our committee has met and we have an energized group with lots of ideas.

Here are some things we want to accomplish this year.

Junior Youth Day for Fall Gathering!

RE Fundraising? Breakfast November 12!

More social action work!

More time with Rev. Peter!

Improved Communication!

Micro financing project at Christmas!

Theme based Program corresponding to Adult Monthly theme!

Children singing in Choir at Whole Church Services!

Potluck Friday Frolic - tree trimming and fun night December 1st

Another Summer Day Camp!

Mark Konrad and Klarissa Fear-Firman will lead the senior classes. Myself and Shannon Whitlock will work with the junior classes, and Melissa Phillips continues as our Child Care Provider. Ann Klinck will be in charge of leading special activity days.

Loosely our schedule will be:

1st Sunday - Potluck and Introduction to Monthly Theme

2nd Sunday - Activity Sunday (i.e. Science, Social Action, Outing, etc.)

3rd Sunday - Whole Church Service

4th Sunday - Jr. and Sr. Lesson and Activities based on Monthly Theme

How can you help, you may be asking? You could share a special talent, volunteer to be a float person, or help out by being an extra pair of hands for a special activity. Please see me if you would like to volunteer either once or regularly.

Respectfully submitted

Lori Otte, DRE

Humanist Association

Date - Wednesday, October 18

Time - 7:00 p.m.

Place - Wolf Performance Hall,
Central Library

Topic - How Muslims are Embracing
the 21st Century.

Speaker - Raheel Raza.

Raheel Raza is a Pakistani-Canadian
journalist, author, public speaker, me-
dia consultant, anti-racism activist, and
interfaith discussion leader. She lives
in Toronto.

The Unitarian Fellowship of London

557 Clarke Road, London, ON, N5V 2E1

Minister: The Reverend Peter Boullata

Sunday Services 10:45am

The Board

President.....Judith Warren
Vice President & Congregational Health
TrusteeKathleen Proctor
Past PresidentAnn Klinck
TreasurerAlastair Henry
Living Tradition Trustee.....Allan Grose
Secretary.....Vacant
Youth Rep..... Vacant

Lay Chaplains

Christine McKinlay-Smith
and Joyce Orchard

Director Children's Religious Exploration

Lori Turner-Otte

Child Care Provider

Melissa Phillips

Office Manager

Patricia Daly

Pianist

Eric Charbonneau and Alex Chen

Contact us...

Telephone (519) 451-0424

Email ufl@execulink.com

www.unitarianfellowshipoflondon.org

Office Hours

Please telephone the Office Manager
(519-451-0424)
to arrange a time to accommodate you.